

WHO WAS ROBIN HOOD?

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OCTOBER 6, 1944

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BEFORE THE LEAVES FALL : LUCCOMBE, SOMERSET

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AUCTIONS

ANTIQUE OR MODERN (advantageous to Executors, Trustees and Private Owners).—Very GOOD PRICES ASSURED for Antique and Modern Household Furniture, Silver, Jewellery, Pictures, Books, Porcelain, etc., at the weekly Auction Sales of **PHILIPS, SON & NEALE**, 7, Blenheim Street, New Bond Street (Established 1796). (Sales of the above property can also be promptly arranged by private treaty.) Tel.: MAYfair 2424. Ref. W.T.L. Auction announcements, *Daily Telegraph* every Monday, *The Times* every Tuesday.

At an early date in October, by direction of the Executors, Uplands, Stoke Poges, the small freehold estate of 4½ acres with convenient family residence, Garages. Particulars in course of preparation.

H. R. HARMER
PHILATELIC AUCTIONEER AND VALUER
(Established over 50 years)

will sell at AUCTION, MONDAY and TUESDAY OCTOBER 30 and 31, the third portion of the "R. B. YARDLEY" COLLECTION, comprising: Die and Plate Proofs, Essays, Entire and Issued Stamps of British Possessions in Africa, Europe and North America; also Egypt and Mauritius, including Cyprus, Great Britain, Malta, Cape of Good Hope, Egypt, Giquialand, Mauritius, Natal, Sierra Leone, Transvaal, British Columbia, Canada, New Brunswick, Newfoundland, and Nova Scotia, etc.

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Catalogues of all H. R. Harmer's weekly stamp sales held in London for season (September, 1944, to July, 1945), 10/-; or with Lists of prices realised, 30/-.

H. R. HARMER

The World's Leading Auctioneer,
39-42, New Bond Street, London, W.1.

NEWMARKET OCTOBER SALES, 1944

Messrs. TATTERSALL will sell by AUCTION, at PARK PADDOCKS, on MONDAY, OCTOBER 9th:—

YEARLINGS, with Engagements, the Property of *Chute Farms, Ltd., Chute, Andover*.

A GREY FILLY, foaled April 22nd, 1943, by Alishah out of Lady Amy (1939) by Maltavers, out of The Matriarch by Cyclonic, out of Dail. LADY AMY, never trained because of war. This is her first foal.

THE MATRIARCH never raced; dam of Lady Amy, her first foal.

DAIL won a race at Redcar; dam of Statesman (third in Derby to Hyperion, winner of Hurst Park Great Two-year-old Stakes, Duke of York Handicap, Kempton, St. Leger Trial Stakes, Hurst Park, and several others; now leading stallion in Japan). Other winners Solicitor-General, Margaret of Richings, Tordail, Houdail, and Frank Dale. The Paraffin family.

A CHESNUT COLT, foaled March 20th, 1943, by Wyndham out of Lady Chery (1939) by Flamino, out of Dail by Land League, out of Discourse.

LADY CHANTRY did not win; only raced as two-year-old, went to stud at three years old; dam of Robin o' Chantry (third at Salisbury second time out) and Franciscan (now three years old, has run unsuccessfully).

DAIL—see previous Lot.
DISCOURSE never raced owing to 1914-1918 war; dam of Dail and several other winners. Paraffin family.

A BAY COLT, foaled May 24th, 1943, by Alishah out of The Matriarch (1935) by Cyclonic, out of Dail by Land League, out of Discourse.

THE MATRIARCH never raced.
DAIL—see first Lot.
DISCOURSE—see previous Lot.
Will stand at Park Paddock.

PUTTICK & SIMPSON, LTD. (Established in 1794) hold frequent Sales by Auction of Old Silver, Sheffield Plate, Jewellery, Old English Furniture, Porcelain and Pottery, Glass, Objects of Art, Engravings, Etchings, Colour Prints, Pictures, Drawings, Postage Stamps, Books, MSS., Old Violins, etc., at their Galleries, 72, New Bond Street, London, W.1. Tel.: MAYfair 6622.

PERSONAL

DOUGLAS GLASS, specialist in Child Photography, is now at 20, Abingdon Villas, W.8. Western 2535. Country visits arranged.

ORIGINAL SPEECHES FOR ALL OCCASIONS prepared. Also Public Speaking privately taught. WELbeck 4947.—KIRKHAM HAMILTON, Speakers' Academy, 67, Hallam Street, W.1.

WANTED by OFFICER returning civil life Suits, etc. Height, 5 ft. 8 ins; chest, 42; waist, 40. Must be first-class make and condition. —Box 223.

MISCELLANEOUS

ANTIQUES AND FURNISHING—a choice collection of Georgian Chairs, Easy Chairs, Dining Tables, Bureaux, Tallboys, Chests, Persian Rugs, Mirrors, Ornamental China, Chinese Porcelain and Ivories, Cut Glass, Bronzes, etc. Inspection invited.—WILLIAM WILLET, LTD., Sloane Square, S.W.1. Tel. Sloane 8141.

BAGS!—HANDBAG SERVICES COMPANY will overhaul and renovate your handbag. Finest craftsmanship. Send it for an estimate to 59, New Bond Street, W.1 (next door Fenwick's).

BROOKLANDS OF BOND STREET would like particulars of good cars available for purchase.—109, New Bond Street, W.1. MAYfair 6351.

CHARLES ANGELL, 34, Milson Street, Bath, dealer in antique furniture, china, pictures, jewellery, etc., is willing to buy collections or single specimens at good prices. Also has a large stock for disposal. Enquiries solicited.

CHARLES BARKER, Fireplace Specialist, 21, Carter's Lane, Stratford-on-Avon, will gladly advise on Fireplace alterations for fuel economy.

CLOTHING WANTED, also for SALE or HIRE. Suits, Riding Kit, Boots, Furs, Binoculars, Cameras, Trunks, Sporting Guns, Fishing Tackle, Furniture, Lined. CASH for parcels. All British Firm. Established 25 years. GORDON GIBSON AND CO., 131 and 141, Edgware Road, Marble Arch. Padd. 3779 and 9908.

CUSTOMERS OF HEAL'S in the London area who wish to dispose of furniture or bedding, are requested to write to: HEAL & SON, LTD., 136, Tottenham Court Road, W.1.

CLASSIFIED ANNOUNCEMENTS

Under Personal and Miscellaneous 2/- per line. Other headings 1/6. (Min. 3 lines.)

MISCELLANEOUS

FINE ANTIQUE WALNUT and other FURNITURE, CHINA and GLASS at THE GENERAL TRADING CO. (MAYFAIR), LTD., 1, 3 and 5, Grantham Place, Park Lane, W.1. Grosvenor 3273.

GOLD, Silver, Diamonds, Jewellery, converted into cash NOW while prices are high. Registered Parcels receive same attention as personal transactions.—HARRODS LTD., London, S.W.1. Sloane 1234.

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Easily worn and invaluable while waiting for your next permanent wave and on all occasions when you cannot visit your hairdresser.

The joy of a perfect coiffure at all times will be yours if you are wearing a Coronet of Curls. Pattern of your hair will enable me to quote you the cost, which is not unreasonable at the present time.

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THE FASHION CIRCLE DRESS AGENCY. GOOD clothes bought and sold.—Room 27, 55, Berners Street, W.1. Museum 2733.

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WEST OF ENGLAND—Public, please remember that BRUFORD'S OF EXETER, Goldsmiths and Silversmiths, will value or purchase for cash Jewels and Silver. Ancient or Modern. Call by appointment.—Phone: EXETER 5401.

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TURKEYS. 10 weeks old, 30/- each; 12 weeks old, 35/- each; 14 weeks old, 40/- each. Carriage paid in lots of 4 or more. Cash with order. Add 10/- for returnable crate. Orders sent out in strict rotation. Just over 1,000 left for sale.—P. F. POULTRY, LTD., The Bury Farm, Chesham, Bucks. Tel.: Chesham 285.

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OTHER PROPERTY AND AUCTIONS
ADVERTISING PAGE 58

COUNTRY LIFE

VOL. XCVI. No 2490.

OCTOBER 6, 1944

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Including the FINE
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The accommodation includes
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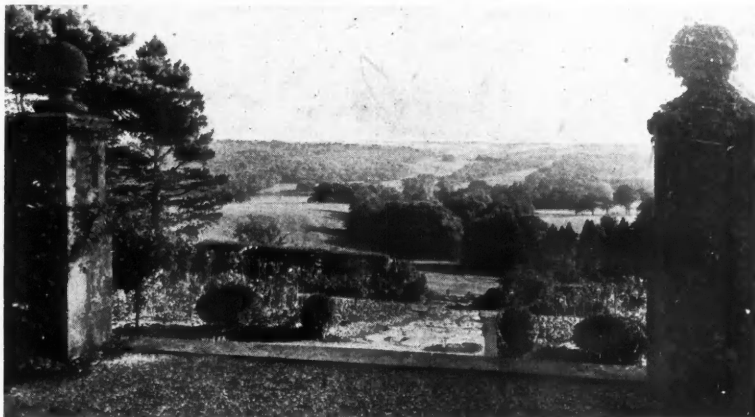
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Several separate cottages
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(The Estate as a whole or
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Comprising in all some

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IN ALL ABOUT 21 ACRES.

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THE CHARMING STONE-BUILT MANSION is beautifully placed and contains: Hall, 4 reception rooms, 17 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms. Central heating. Electric light. BAILIFF'S HOUSE AND FARMERY. TWO COTTAGES. SMALL SECONDARY RESIDENCE. FARM LANDS. Rent charge of about £18 15s. per annum.

In all about 373 ACRES

To be offered for SALE by AUCTION as a whole or in LOTS (unless previously sold privately) by Messrs. ROYCE, acting in conjunction with JACKSON STOPS & STAFF, at the VICTORIA HALL, OAKHAM, on FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 1944, at 2.30 p.m.

Solicitors: Messrs. Freshfield Leese & Munns, 31, Old Jewry, London, E.C.2. Particulars (price 1s.) of the Joint Auctioneers: Messrs. JACKSON STOPS & STAFF, Bridge Street, Northampton (Tel. 2615/6), 18, Hanover Street, London, W.1; and Messrs. ROYCE, Oakham (Tel. 20).

WEST SUFFOLK



CHOICE RESIDENTIAL ESTATE IN DELIGHTFUL COUNTRY

OLD-WORLD RED BRICK HOUSE
4 reception, 4 bathrooms, 8 bedrooms. Electric light. Central heating. HOME FARM. 3 COTTAGES.

140 ACRES FOR SALE AT A REASONABLE FIGURE

Agents: Messrs. JACKSON STOPS & STAFF, Northampton. (10,244)

AN OPPORTUNITY SELDOM OCCURRING TO-DAY

GLOUCESTER—WILTS BORDERS

In the Beaufort Hunt. About 1 mile Tetbury. Kemble Junction about 6 miles.

CHARMINGLY SITUATED MODERN RESIDENCE

COMPLETELY UP TO DATE AND LABOUR-*SAVING* IN ALL RESPECTS. Oak polished woodwork throughout, stone fireplaces, etc. Lounge, dining room, splendidly equipped kitchen, etc., 3 principal and maids' bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Central heating. Estate water. Electricity. Septic tank drainage. Telephone.

GOOD MODERN COTTAGE and 4 EXCELLENT LOOSE BOXES, etc. GARDEN and PADDOCKS in all over

3 ACRES

TO BE SOLD, FREEHOLD

POSSESSION OF THE RESIDENCE CAN BE HAD WITHIN A REASONABLE TIME BY ARRANGEMENT, COTTAGE LATER.

Sole Agents: JACKSON STOPS, Cirencester. (Tel.: 334/5.) (7,706)

HANTS

Easy reach of station. Situate on high ground.



A GEORGIAN RESIDENCE

11 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, modern offices.

Main services. Central heating. Fitted basins (h. and c.) in nearly all bedrooms. STABLING. GARAGES. 2 COTTAGES. GARDENS AND GROUNDS, SMALL PARK. 2 TENNIS COURTS, KITCHEN GARDEN, ETC. In all

ABOUT 23 ACRES

FREEHOLD FOR SALE WITH POSSESSION AFTER THE WAR

Agents: WINKWORTH & Co., 48, Curzon Street, London, W.1

(685)

KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY

BETWEEN OXFORD AND BANBURY

GEORGIAN RESIDENCE AND 860 ACRES

Trout Fishing in River which runs through Deer Park

Occupying a fine situation, the house is built of local stone with blue slate roof and stands about 400 ft. above sea level facing South with rural views over the Park and Lake.

It is approached by two large gates. Drives each about a ¼ mile long, one having a gate-house. 4 well-proportioned and lofty reception, 10 principal, day and night nurseries, 8 secondary and 2 servants' bedrooms, 2 baths.

Electric light, telephone, spring water supply, cesspool drainage system.



Stone buildings include ample stabling and garage accommodation. The grounds include 2 large and several small lawns, terrace down to the river, rose, rock and water gardens, grass tennis courts, walled kitchen garden, parkland, woodland. Remainder comprises 3 Farms let on yearly Michaelmas tenancy, village and over 20 Cottages.

About 2 miles exceptionally good Trout Fishing,

Excellent Partridge and Pheasant Shooting.

Hunting. Golf.

TO BE SOLD FREEHOLD

The Residence (a portion of which is held in requisition by the W.L.A.) would be sold with less land.
Sole Agents: Messrs. FRANKLIN & JONES, Frewin Court, Oxford: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY, 20, Hanover Square, W.1. (40,536)

By Direction of F. C. Woodman, Esq.

GLOUCESTER, MONMOUTH AND HEREFORD BORDERS

One mile from Monmouth. The Freehold Residential and Agricultural Property

CROFT-Y-BWLA, Monmouth, about 247 ACRES

THE GEORGIAN RESIDENCE stands in pleasant gardens 200 ft. above sea level facing South, with fine views. It contains 3 reception, billiard room, 7 bed (5 with basins), 4 bathrooms, and complete offices. Main electric light and power. Central heating.

Stabling. Garage. Lodge and 2 cottages. Farm buildings with model cow-houses. Rich farmlands famous for crops of natural wild white clover and maintaining a well-known herd of pedigree Friesians.

VACANT POSSESSION FEBRUARY NEXT

FOR SALE BY AUCTION at the BEAUFORT ARMS HOTEL, MONMOUTH, on OCTOBER 16 at 3 p.m. (unless previously sold).

Solicitors: Messrs. Gabb, Price & Fisher, Abergavenny.

Auctioneers: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY, 14, Dogpole, Shrewsbury, and 20, Hanover Square, W.1. Particulars 1s. each.

Mayfair 3771 (10 lines)

20, HANOVER SQUARE, LONDON, W.1.

Telegrams: Galleries, Wesdo, London.

Regent 0293/3377
Reading 4441

NICHOLAS

(Established 1882)

4, ALBANY COURT YARD, PICCADILLY, W.1; 1, STATION ROAD, READING

MIDWAY BETWEEN CHIPPENHAM AND MARLBOROUGH

Close to town with railway station.

For Sale. Possession in about 6 months.

A VERY ATTRACTIVE AND SOUNDLY BUILT COUNTRY RESIDENCE

Approached by 2 drives in grounds and land of about

17 ACRES

Lounge hall, billiard room, dining room, drawing room, study, 13 bedrooms, 2 large bathrooms. The domestic offices, very conveniently arranged, are complete in every respect. Partial central heating. Main services supplies. Stabling for 5, saddle room, isolation box and cart house. Farm buildings. Cowhouse for 4; cow-tie for 8; mixing house; granary; pigery for 10; 4 loose boxes in paddock. 2 cottages with gardens, each of 5 rooms. Main services. Delightful gardens, tennis and croquet lawns, well-stocked kitchen garden and pleasure grounds. Fruit trees, peach house, vinery and 3 small greenhouses.

PRICE £10,750 FREEHOLD

Golf N.W. Wilts. Hunting with Duke of Beaufort and Avon Vale Packs. Further particulars of Messrs. NICHOLAS, 4, Albany Court Yard, Piccadilly, W.1.

USEFUL FARM OF OVER 100 ACRES

WITH GOOD HOUSE AND BUILDINGS, LET TO A GOOD TENANT,

FOR SALE AS AN INVESTMENT

Particulars of Messrs. NICHOLAS, 4, Albany Court Yard, Piccadilly, W.1.

Telegrams: "Nichenyer, Piccy, London" "Nicholas, Reading"

SUFFOLK

In a very beautiful and unspoilt part of the country.

THIS LOVELY OLD QUEEN ANNE HOUSE

Built of mellowed brick. The decorations and the whole house were the subject of expenditure of some thousands of pounds a few years ago. Accommodation: Entrance hall, drawing room, dining room, morning room, 6 principal bed and dressing rooms, 3 bathrooms, 5 other bedrooms and bathroom. Model domestic offices. Electric light. Central heating, excellent water supply. Range of stabling. Garage for 8 cars. 3 Cottages. Picturesque and beautiful old gardens and grounds of 22 ACRES surround the house.

The remainder includes about 204 ACRES of Mixed Farm Land with good buildings, let to an adjoining farmer.

PRICE £15,000 FREEHOLD. Post-war Vacant Possession. Particulars of Messrs. NICHOLAS, 4, Albany Court Yard, Piccadilly, W.1.



F. L. MERCER & CO.

SACKVILLE HOUSE, 40, PICCADILLY, W.1

Regent 2481

OXFORD—BOARS HILL

One of the finest views obtainable over the city.



WELL-PLANNED ARCHITECT-BUILT HOUSE, in excellent order. 3 reception rooms, very modern. 3 systems of heating, cooking and lighting. 7 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Main services. Central heating. Garage. Picturesque gardens, lawn, paddocks, nearly 100 ACRES. PRICE FREEHOLD £5,000. No offers. Views, fires, special fixtures and fittings to be purchased addition. F. L. MERCER & Co., as above.

HORSHAM, SUSSEX

1 mile station. Secluded position. Views to Leith Hill.

A GABLED WEATHER-TILED RESIDENCE in a quiet situation. 50 minutes London by electric trains. Sun lounge, 2 reception rooms, cloakroom, maids' sitting room, 7 bedrooms (fitted basins), 3 bathrooms. Partly central heated. Main services. 3-car garage, man's room. The gardens are a feature, including orchard, kitchen garden, tennis lawn.

2 ACRES. FREEHOLD, £7,225,

with vacant possession.

F. L. MERCER & Co., as above.

DEVON—NEAR BUCKFAST ABBEY

Devon beauty spot.

SPLENDIDLY PLACED MODERN HOUSE, facing south-east, near town and station. 4 bed, bath, oak-panelled hall, 2 reception. All main services. 2 garages. Small old cottage. Terrace gardens, apple orchard. 1½ ACRES. £3,500.

Post-war possession.

F. L. MERCER & Co., Sackville House, 40, Piccadilly, W.1

ON THE BORDERS OF WARWICK AND WORCESTER

11 miles Birmingham, 1 mile local station.



SUPERBLY APPOINTED COUNTRY HOUSE, labour-saving to an advanced degree. Lounge, 3 reception rooms, parquet floors, 6 bedrooms, 2 elegant bathrooms. Central heating. All main services. Garage. Very attractive gardens, lily pool, thatched summer house, etc. FREEHOLD, £6,000. Possession.

F. L. MERCER & Co., as above.



HAMPTON & SONS

6, ARLINGTON STREET, ST. JAMES'S, S.W.1
Regent 8222 (15 lines) Telegrams: "Selanlet, Plooy, London"



GLOUCESTER

On the main Bristol Road. 3 miles from the City centre.

QUEDGELEY HOUSE ESTATE

Valuable freehold Agricultural and highly important Development Property, comprising



QUEDGELEY HOUSE

To be SOLD by AUCTION as a WHOLE or in LOTS (unless previously sold privately) at THE NEW INN HOTEL, GLOUCESTER, on MONDAY, OCTOBER 23, 1944, at 3 o'clock.

Solicitors: Messrs. Slaughter & May, 18, Austin Friars, London, E.C.2. Particulars (2s. 6d. each) with plan and conditions of Sale of the Auctioneers: HAMPTON & SONS, LTD., 6, Arlington Street, London, S.W.1. (Tel.: REG. 8222.)

GEORGIAN RESIDENCE. 3 reception rooms, 19 bedrooms, nurseries, 3 bathrooms. Garages, etc. Walled gardens, paddock, orchards, over 10 ACRES.

WOOLSTROP FARM AND FIELD COURT Two DAIRY FARMS with OLD-WORLD HOUSES, capital buildings and modern cowhouses, 89 ACRES and 88 ACRES respectively.

Dawes Farm—a small holding with excellent cottage, buildings and 7½ ACRES.

Woolstrop Cottage—A modern residence with 2½ Acres. Attractive Cottage and 1 acre with possession by arrangement. Picturesque Lodge and 2 cottages. Park. Good pasture and orchard lands. Intersected by a parish road and having important frontages to the Bristol Road, in all some 11,175 ft. 90 Acres and 102 Acres have been adopted as Town-planned Development Schemes. Absolutely ripe for lucrative post-war building. In all ABOUT 415 ACRES as at present let and producing £1,120 PER ANNUM.



WOOLSTROP FARM

POST-WAR POSSESSION

NORTH WALES

Llandudno, Queen of Welsh Watering Places.

THE FREEHOLD MARINE RESIDENCE, VILLA MARINA

Magnificently situated with panoramic views of the Bay and Welsh Mountains.



Built regardless of cost, the house is luxuriously fitted and labour saving throughout.

Lounge, 30 ft. by 18 ft. 2 reception rooms, 8 bedrooms (fitted hand basins), 3 bathrooms.

Central heating. All main services.

GARAGE. TERRACED LAWNS. CIRCULAR PAVILION WITH CHANGING ROOMS FOR BATHING AND GATE TO THE BEACH.

A UNIQUE EXAMPLE OF MODERN ARCHITECTURE.

FOR SALE BY PRIVATE TREATY

or by AUCTION at a later date.



Full particulars from: Messrs. MATTHEW, RYAN, BLAKE AND WILLIAMS, F.A.I., Augusta Street, Llandudno. Tel.: 6173. and HAMPTON & SONS, LTD., 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. Tel.: REG. 8222.

FOR POST-WAR OCCUPATION

A COMFORTABLE AND DIGNIFIED RESIDENCE IN THE TUNBRIDGE WELLS DISTRICT

Amidst lovely country, 350 ft. up, commanding beautiful views.



STATELY STONE-BUILT RESIDENCE AND 80 ACRES

8 principal and 4 secondary bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, Spacious entrance hall.

4 reception rooms.

Central heating.

Main electricity and water.

3 lodges. 6 cottages.

Farm buildings, etc.

Lovely pleasure gardens; all in perfect order.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD at a reasonable figure.

Particulars from: HAMPTON & SONS, LTD., 6, Arlington Street, S.W.1. Tel.: REG. 8222.

BERKS. SUNNINGHILL AREA

1½ miles from Sunningdale and Ascot Stations and within easy access of several noted golf courses.

COMMODIOUS GEORGIAN RESIDENCE



4 reception rooms, 15 bed and dressing rooms, 6 bathrooms, etc. All public services. Central heating.

BUNGALOW LODGE

Cottage. Stabling.

Garage with rooms for men. Well-established grounds, 2 hard tennis courts, walled kitchen garden, orchards, wood and grass-land. In all over

20 ACRES

FOR SALE FREEHOLD

AT PRESENT LET FURNISHED SUBJECT TO 6 MONTHS' NOTICE

Particulars from: HAMPTON & SONS, LTD., 6, Arlington Street, S.W.1. (Tel.: REG. 8222.)

POST-WAR POSSESSION SURREY

Limpfield Common. In beautiful wooded country.

PICTURESQUE RESIDENCE

of great charm, 500ft. above sea level with panoramic views.

4 reception rooms (one 34 ft. by 17 ft. 6 ins.) 9 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms.

Companies' electric light, gas and water. Modern drainage. Central heating. Garage. Cottage. Bungalow.

Delightful grounds and woodland, in all about

20 ACRES

PRICE £15,500 FREEHOLD

Might be sold without the Bungalow, or with a lesser area.

Inspected and strongly recommended by: HAMPTON & SONS, LTD., 6, Arlington Street, S.W.1. (Tel.: REG. 8222.)



GLOS—WARWICK BORDERS

Accessible to 2 market towns

CAPITAL DAIRY AND MIXED HOLDING OF 12 ACRES

Good house, 2 living rooms, 4 beds, bathroom.

Extensive Buildings suitable for pedigree herd.

HIGHLY PRODUCTIVE LAND SUITABLE FOR MARKET GARDENING AND FRUIT GROWING.

PRICE £8,500 FREEHOLD

Apply: HAMPTON & SONS, Ltd., 6, Arlington Street, S.W.1. (Tel. REG. 8222.)

5, MOUNT ST.,
LONDON, W.1.

CURTIS & HENSON

Grosvenor 3131 (3 lines)
Established 1875

KENT AND SUSSEX BORDERS

Within a few miles of a main line Station and under 45 miles from London.



MODERN RESIDENCE

500 feet up.

Lounge hall, 3 reception rooms,
12 bed and dressing rooms, 5
bathrooms

MODERN DOMESTIC OFFICES.
2 OR 3 COTTAGES.
LARGE GARAGE.
CO.'S WATER & ELECTRICITY.
CENTRAL HEATING.



BEAUTIFULLY TIMBERED GROUNDS ON A SOUTHERN SLOPE WITH EXTENSIVE VIEWS.

FOR SALE WITH ABOUT 31 ACRES

Further particulars from the Agents: CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W.1.

(15,402)

Regent
4304

OSBORN & MERCER

MEMBERS OF THE CHARTERED SURVEYORS' AND AUCTIONEERS' INSTITUTES

28b, ALBEMARLE ST.,
PICCADILLY W.1.

BORDERS OF EPPING FOREST

In a choice position on high ground commanding extensive views over beautifully wooded undulating country.

A WELL-BUILT MODERN HOUSE

erected under the supervision of a well-known architect.

With lounge hall, 4 reception rooms, sun lounge, 8 bed and dressing rooms, 2 bathrooms.

Main Services. 2 Garages. Stabling for 5.
Tastefully laid-out gardens, tennis lawn, orchard, kitchen garden, woodland, etc. In all

ABOUT 3½ ACRES

FOR SALE—FREEHOLD

NOTE: A near-by cottage could be purchased if required. Full details from OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (17,452)

WILTS-GLOS BORDERS

In a much favoured district, a few miles from Cirencester.

DELIGHTFUL STONE-BUILT RESIDENCE OF COTSWOLD TYPE

4 reception, 11 bed and dressing rooms, 4 bathrooms.

Main electricity and water. Central heating.

Model Farmery.

Delightful gardens, excellent pasture. In all

ABOUT 40 ACRES

FOR SALE FREEHOLD

The property is at present under requisition by the War Department.

Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (17,156)

ON THE BORDERS OF THE LAKE DISTRICT AND NEAR THE COAST

CUMBERLAND, NEAR WAST WATER

TO BE SOLD

AN ATTRACTIVE RESIDENTIAL AND SPORTING ESTATE OF ABOUT

1,000 ACRES

TWO MILES OF SALMON AND TROUT FISHING

Fine old House of character dating back to Norman times, standing in beautifully timbered parklands

Halls, 3 reception, billiard room, 15 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms.

Electric light. Excellent water supply.

Modern drainage.

Ample outbuildings. Delightful old walled garden.

7-ACRE TARN

FARMS. SEVERAL COTTAGES. WOODLAND.

Inspected and recommended by the Sole Agents, OSBORN & MERCER, to anyone seeking a really attractive Residential and Sporting Estate.

HANTS AND SURREY BORDERS

Occupying a quiet position away from traffic nuisances yet within a mile of a station with splendid train service to town.

A MOST ATTRACTIVE MODERN HOUSE thoroughly up to date and in first-class order throughout.

Small hall, 3 reception rooms, loggia, usual offices with servants' sitting-room, 6 bedrooms (all with lavatory basins, h. & c.), 2 bathrooms.

Main services. Central heating. 2 excellent Garages.

Delightful well-maintained gardens including lawns, flower beds and borders, tennis lawn, kitchen garden, and a small copse. In all A LITTLE OVER AN ACRE.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH DEFERRED POSSESSION

Inspected and recommended by OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (17,476)

BUCKS

Between Aylesbury and Buckingham, convenient for Main Line Station to London.

Sheltered situation in rural country—For Sale

AN UP-TO-DATE COUNTRY HOUSE OF CHARACTER.

Main electricity and water. Central heating. Lounge hall, 3 reception, dozen bedrooms, 3 bathrooms.

Hunter Stabling. Farmery. 3 Cottages.

Very Pleasant Gardens. Excellent Pasture.

Hard Tennis Court. Squash Court.

24 ACRES

Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, Inspected and highly recommended. (16,730)

3, MOUNT ST.,
LONDON, W.1

RALPH PAY & TAYLOR

Grosvenor
1032-33

WITHOUT DOUBT ONE OF THE LOVELIEST PROPERTIES IN SUSSEX

Secluded and beautiful, quiet position amid unspoilt country. London 30 miles.



AN EXCEPTIONALLY BEAUTIFUL RESIDENCE OF CHARACTER AND DISTINCTION

350 ft. above sea level. South aspect, lovely views.

14 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, lounge hall and 4 reception rooms. Model domestic offices.

Main electricity and water. Central heating.

STABLING. GARAGES.

4 COTTAGES.

DELIGHTFUL GARDENS AND GROUNDS WITH MANY UNIQUE FEATURES. ORNAMENTAL LAKE, WOODLANDS AND GRASSLAND, in all about

120 ACRES.

FREEHOLD FOR SALE AT REASONABLE PRICE.

POST-WAR POSSESSION.

Full details, Owner's Agents, as above.

OVERLOOKING DENHAM GOLF COURSE



UNUSUALLY CHARMING GEORGIAN REPLICA IN FAULTLESS ORDER.

4 principal bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms. Secondary accommodation in cottage adjoining: 3 bedrooms, bathroom, large study, 6 large bedrooms, dressing room, 2 bathrooms, fine offices, maid's sitting-room. Garage for 2 or 3 cars. RADIATORS throughout. ELECTRIC LIGHT and power, from Company.

EXCEEDINGLY PRETTY GARDENS. YEW HEDGES, LAWNS, BATHING POOL WITH DRESSING HUT, WALLED KITCHEN GARDENS, etc. Excellent carriage drive with handsome wrought-iron entrance gates.

Recommended by MAPLE & Co., LTD., as above.

TOTTENHAM COURT RD., W.1
(Euston 7000)

MAPLE & Co., LTD.

5, GRAFTON ST., MAYFAIR, W.1.
(Regent 4685)

WILTSHIRE

Near Bradford-on-Avon, close to a beautiful village in a perfect situation.

FOR SALE

A CHARMING HOUSE

(Three 17th-century cottages converted)

With modern conveniences, CENTRAL HEATING, ELECTRIC LIGHT, polished floor, etc. Hall, drawing-room, dining-room, sitting-room, 5 bedrooms, dressing room, 2 bathrooms. Garage for 2 cars. Delightful garden of 1 acre. Terraces, prolific kitchen garden. Faces south, a real sun-trap.

PRICE, FREEHOLD, £6,000

Agents: MAPLE & Co., LTD., as above.

VALUATIONS for INSURANCE, PROBATE, ETC. FURNITURE SALES CONDUCTED IN TOWN AND COUNTRY.

SUSSEX DOWNS

500 ft. up, commanding a glorious prospect over the undulating Weald of Sussex.

FOR SALE

A CHOICE RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY OF OVER 30 ACRES

Of charming gardens, woodlands and grassland, together with a Country House of moderate size but with large rooms. Spacious drawing and dining rooms, large study, 6 large bedrooms, dressing room, 2 bathrooms, fine offices, maid's sitting-room. Garage for 2 or 3 cars. RADIATORS throughout. ELECTRIC LIGHT and power, from Company.

EXCEEDINGLY PRETTY GARDENS. YEW HEDGES, LAWNS, BATHING POOL WITH DRESSING HUT, WALLED KITCHEN GARDENS, etc. Excellent carriage drive with handsome wrought-iron entrance gates.

Recommended by MAPLE & Co., LTD., as above.

Grosvenor 1553
(4 lines)

GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS

(ESTABLISHED 1778)

25, MOUNT ST., GROSVENOR SQ., W.1

Hobart Place, Eaton Sq.,
68, Victoria St.,
Westminster, S.W.1.

140 ACRES IN EAST DEVON A CHARMING OLD RESIDENCE AND HOME FARM



FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH POSSESSION OF PART OF THE RESIDENCE

The remainder is let until after the war.

If desired the RESIDENCE and 14½ ACRES can be purchased separately.

Particulars of GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, London, W.1. (7,616)

Near market town and station.

4 reception rooms, 8 principal bed and dressing rooms, 2 baths, 5 secondary bedrooms. Well arranged offices with servant's room. Main electric light and water, central heating, modern drainage. 2 Cottages. Garages. Stabling. Particularly attractive grounds.

HAMPSHIRE

Between Midhurst and Petersfield. Adjoining and with access to a Golf Course.



THIS CHARMING RESIDENTIAL ESTATE, bounded on three sides by beautiful Commons and comprising Residence with lounge hall, billiards room, 12 bed, 2 bathrooms, central heating, ample water, modern drainage. Garages, stabling, farmery, bailiff's house, 4 cottages. In all about **97 ACRES, FOR SALE FREEHOLD**. Particulars from the Agents: GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, W.1. (8,775)

44, ST. JAMES'S
PLACE, S.W.1

JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK

AGENTS FOR THE HOME COUNTIES, THE SHIRES, AND SPORTING COUNTIES GENERALLY

Regent
0911

BUCKS

MILL HOUSE OF GEORGIAN PERIOD, of mellowed red brick, modernised and in beautiful order. 10 minutes station, excellent train service. Beautiful views. Central heating, main electricity, company's water, basins in all bedrooms. 3 sitting rooms, 6-7 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Garage. Tiled summer house. Delightful gardens, kitchen garden and orchard. **1¼ ACRES. PRICE £7,000 FREEHOLD.**

Owner's Agents: JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, 44, St. James's Place, London, S.W.1. (L.R.20,791.)

OXFORDSHIRE

POSSESSION DECEMBER, 1944.

£3,250 FREEHOLD

CHARMING COUNTRY COTTAGE RESIDENCE in a delightful district. 2 sitting rooms, 4 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 w.c.s, kitchen, larder, etc. Garage with room over. 2 other outhouses. Garden and small orchard.

Owner's Agents: JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, 44, St. James's Place, London, S.W.1. (L.R.20,790.)

WEST SUSSEX

Between CHICHESTER and HAVANT.

Situated on outskirts of a lovely old village with good bus services to surrounding district.

MODERN COUNTRY RESIDENCE

Commanding distant views.

3 sitting rooms, billiards room, 12 bedrooms, 2 dressing rooms, 2 bathrooms. Main services. Central heating. Garage, etc. Flies court. Lovely gardens, orchard (over 100 trees) and level meadow of 5 ACRES.

10 ACRES IN ALL

PRICE FREEHOLD £7,000

VACANT POSSESSION BY ARRANGEMENT.

Inspected and recommended by Owner's Sole Agents: JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, 44, St. James's Place, London, S.W.1. (L.R.20,777.)

SOUTHERN MIDLANDS

Convenient for London, Rugby and Birmingham.

£7,750 with 51 ACRES and COTTAGE

1 mile from village, 2 from good station. The accommodation of the residence is on 2 floors only. Lounge hall, 3 sitting rooms, 7 bed and dressing rooms, 2 bathrooms, maids' sitting room. Electric light. Stabling, garage and farm buildings. Nice gardens and grounds. A really attractive proposition.

JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, London Office, 44, St. James's Place, London, S.W.1. (L.R.16,875.)

WEST SURREY

EARLY VACANT POSSESSION.

3 miles from a good country town and on bus route.

ACCOMMODATION ON 2 FLOORS ONLY. Hall and 3 sitting rooms, 6 bedrooms, dressing room, bathroom. Main electricity, gas and company's water. Stabling and garage. Delightful grounds, orchard and meadow, in all about

16 ACRES

Owner's Agents: JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, 44, St. James's Place, London, S.W.1. (L.R.20,784.)

16, ARCADE STREET,
IPSWICH
Ipswich 4334

WOODCOCKS

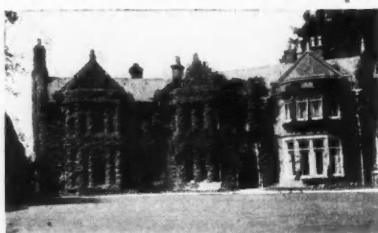
30, ST. GEORGE STREET,
HANOVER SQUARE, W.1
Mayfair 5411

NEAR NEWMARKET. CHOICE LITTLE PROPERTY 57 ACRES. Most comfortable house. 3 sitting, 4 bedrooms, modern bathroom. Own electricity and water laid on. In very attractive gardens. Groom's flat, gardener's brick bungalow with bath (h. & c.). Farm buildings. 8-acre poultry section, etc. **£3,750 COMPLETE.** Early possession of dwellings and poultry section. WOODCOCKS, 30, St. George Street, London, W.1.

2 MILES OF TROUT FISHING DUMFRIESHIRE. NICE LITTLE ESTATE about **1,400 ACRES** farming land and sheep and cattle run (80 acres woods). Delightfully situated Farm Residence. 3 sitting, 5 bedrooms, modern comforts including main electricity. Excellent farm buildings with extensive cow accommodation. 6 cottages. **ONLY £12,000 FREEHOLD, OR AS GOING CONCERN £17,000.** Possession. Inspected. WOODCOCKS, 30, St. George Street, W.1.

EXETER 14 MILES. Glorious country. **PARTICULARLY ATTRACTIVE SMALL ESTATE, 278 ACRES**, bounded and intersected trout river. Gentleman's house in perfect order. 4 reception, 6 bedrooms (3 with h. & c.), modern bathroom. Electric light. Early possession of house and home farm 102 acres, and possible further 64 acres; rest let. Just inspected and recommended at **£12,500.**

WOODCOCKS, 30, St. George Street, W.1.



IDEAL FAMILY HOME, GUEST HOUSE, NURSING HOME, SCHOOL, etc.

**GARDEN AND PADDOCKS
30 ACRES**

**RIPE FOR DEVELOPMENT.
WOULD SELL WITH 14½ ACRES ONLY**

Inspected and recommended.

WOODCOCKS, 30, St. George Street, W.1. (Mayfair 5411.)

FERTILE AND BEAUTIFUL VALE OF USK GILT-EDGED INVESTMENT WITH POSSIBLE POSSESSION

ABERGAVENNY 3½ MILES. HIGH-CLASS DAIRY AND STOCK FARM 166 ACRES, recently classed "A." Rich land, well watered. Ample homestead. £1,000 recently spent on improvements. Let at £347. **FREEHOLD, £8,500.**

Inspected by WOODCOCKS, 30, St. George Street, W.1

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CAMBRIDGESHIRE. A QUITE EXCEPTIONAL FARMING ESTATE OF 500 ACRES, combining a first-class agricultural property (dairy, corn and fruit) with distinctive residential and sporting amenities. All in tip-top order.

PRICE, FREEHOLD, ONLY £47 AN ACRE.

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THE SQUARE, BOURNEMOUTH.

Bournemouth
3481/2

Re J. J. Jones, Esq., decd.

Of very especial interest to those requiring a most unique and highly select residential property facing the sea front, either for private occupation, for institutional purposes, or for use as a high-class residential club.

BOURNEMOUTH WEST, IN THE COUNTY OF DORSET

Occupying the finest position on the South Coast, immediately facing the sea, and within two minutes' walk of the beach and chimes.

A BEAUTIFULLY CONSTRUCTED FREEHOLD RESIDENCE



FRONT ELEVATION

Illustrated particulars from the Sole Agents: REBBECK BROS., Chartered Surveyors and Land Agents, The Square, Bournemouth.

standing on a prominence with magnificent sea views over Bournemouth Bay. Soundly built of brick with Westmorland slated roof and containing 3 teak-panelled entertaining rooms all facing the sea. Teak panelled billiards room, 12 bed and dressing rooms mostly facing the sea, 4 bathrooms, compact domestic quarters. Garage for four cars. RANGE OF VINERIES AND GREENHOUSES.

EXTRAORDINARILY PLANNED GROUNDS OF SOME 10 ACRES

WITH PRIVATE PARK, STONE TERRACES, WOODLAND WALKS, THREE COTTAGES, AND ALL THE APPURTENANCES OF A HIGH-CLASS GENTLEMAN'S RESIDENCE.

Complete central heating. Running water in nearly all bedrooms. Perfect seclusion. On main motor-bus route to the centre of the town.

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THE WELL-KNOWN RESIDENTIAL, AGRICULTURAL AND SPORTING ESTATE OF APPLGIRTH

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comprising FINELY APPOINTED HANDSOME GEORGIAN HOUSE (at present used as hospital) with electric light, central heating, passenger lift. Magnificently wooded avenues and drives with entrance lodges.

LARGE WELL EQUIPPED HOME FARM FOR PEDIGREE ABERDEEN-ANGUS HERD.

18 Dairy and Arable Farms let to Tenants.

Small holdings, 43 houses and cottages. Quarry. Fenduties. Delightfully situated Dover House.

SALMON, SEA-TROUT AND BROWN-TROUT FISHING FOR 4 MILES IN RIVER ANNAN AND ABOUT 1½ MILES IN KINNEL WATER.

Pheasant, Partridge, and good rough shooting.

470 ACRES OF WOODLANDS WITH SCOTS FIR, SPRUCE, LARCH AND MIXED HARDWOODS.

CONSIDERABLE QUANTITY OF MARKETABLE TIMBER AND MANY HEALTHY YOUNG PLANTATIONS.

whole extending to some 4,558 ACRES.

TOTAL RENTAL, £4,902 16s. 3d.

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Solicitors: Messrs. J. & F. Anderson, W.S., 48, Castle Street, Edinburgh.

Printed illustrated particulars (price 2s. 6d. each) from Sole Selling Agents: CAPTAIN PERCY WALLACE, 50, Pall Mall, London, S.W.1 (Tel.: Grosvenor 2325; Telegrams: Acharain, Piccy, London); and JOHN D. WOOD & Co., 23, Berkeley Square, London, W.1 (Tel.: Mayfair 6341; Telegrams: Wood Agents (Wesdo) London).

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THIS BEAUTIFUL QUEEN ANNE HOUSE

IN SECLUDED GROUNDS OF ABOUT

4½ ACRES

approached by drive 200 yds. in length.

Sitting hall, inner hall with period staircase, drawing and dining room, 10 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, modern offices. Main electricity, gas, water and drainage. Garage for 4 cars.

EXCELLENT COTTAGE WITH BATHROOM. CHARMING WALLED GARDEN, BEAUTIFULLY TIMBERED ORCHARD AND Paddock.

PRICE £7,000

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In a favoured district within easy reach of Godalming.

A WELL-BUILT HOUSE

Lounge hall, 3 reception rooms, 6 principal bedrooms, dressing room, bathroom. 3 staff rooms.

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GARDENER'S COTTAGE.

ATTRACTIVE WELL TIMBERED GROUNDS WITH PRODUCTIVE KITCHEN GARDEN,

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SURREY-SUSSEX BORDERS 30 miles, favorite district. Gentleman's highly attractive Residential and Farming Estate of 500 acres, having genuine Tudor residence with lovely old oak in secluded position with beautiful due South views. 2 large reception, 5 bed, 3 bathrooms. Electric light, Central heating, 5 excellent cottages with baths and c.i. and good buildings. Highly farmed by owner, in excellent heart and lying very attractively, including very fine paddocks. Ideal for a London man requiring daily access. For sale freehold, with early possession. Recommended. Sole agents: BENTALL, HORSLEY & BALDRY, 184, Brompton Road, S.W.3 (Ken. 0152).

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An important residential and agricultural estate.

NEARLY 300 ACRES

Intersected by a stream for about a mile running into the River Teign. BEAUTIFUL 13th-CENTURY MANOR HOUSE OF GREAT CHARM Of considerable historic interest, now completely modernised, including central heating, main water, electric light and power. Lounge hall, 3 reception, 6-9 bedrooms (fitted basins), 3 baths. Walled gardens, swimming pool. Charming old-world secondary residence, 3 cottages. Excellent T.T. farm buildings. MOST LOVELY SITUATION, NEAR ONE OF THE MOST PICTURESQUE OLD-WORLD VILLAGES.

Between Exeter and Newton Abbot, each 8 miles. 18 miles from Torquay with its excellent yachting facilities.

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WANTED

UP TO £40,000 will be paid for a GENTLEMAN'S ATTRACTIVE RESIDENTIAL & FARMING ESTATE OF ABOUT 500 ACRES

preferably in the West Country, Herefordshire, Salop, Glos or Dorset or Somerset. A good and well placed residence (about 8 bed, etc.) is required, and an estate with some good sporting woodlands and also some water is particularly desired. Very genuine purchaser. Will prospective Vendors kindly write at once to BENTALL, HORSLEY & BALDRY, 184, Brompton Road, S.W.3, marking letters "G. H. O. N. Private"

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£6,000 [WITH POSSESSION]
450 ft. up. Under 20 miles London.



IN A DELIGHTFUL PART OF SURREY

ATTRACTIVE MODERN HOUSE with 7 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 reception. Main services. Central heating. Garage and flat. Cottage. Nicely timbered gardens and about **2 ACRES WOODLAND**.

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BARGAIN AT 5,000 GUINEAS
High up with beautiful views. On bus route.



In rural Sussex, overlooking Ashdown Forest.

CHARMING MODERN HOUSE. 8 beds, 2 baths, 3 reception. Main services. Central heating. Garage. Well timbered gardens, orchard, paddock. Post-war possession.

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An hour from London.



QUEEN ANNE HOUSE OF EXCEPTIONAL CHARACTER. 10 beds, 2 baths, 3 reception. Main services. Radiators. Garage, stabling. Cottage. Well timbered garden and paddock. Owner will give possession end of war.

10 ACRES

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HASLEMERE 3 miles. Magnificent position, delightful **MODERN GEORGIAN RESIDENCE.** 3 reception, billiard room, 3 bath, 11 bed (6 fitted h. & c.). Main electricity; central heating; telephone. Garage for 3. Gardener's cottage. Charming grounds. 2 **HARD TENNIS COURTS.** Kitchen garden, greenhouses. Really exceptional property. Recommended.—TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (20,649)

85 ACRES (45 acres let). £9,500

DEVON. 10 miles Barnstaple. 600 ft. up, lovely views. **MOST ATTRACTIVE COUNTRY RESIDENCE.** Billiard room, 4 reception, 2 bathrooms, 11 bedrooms. Central heating. Gas. Telephone. Garage, 5 loose boxes, farmbuildings. Well-timbered grounds, walled kitchen garden, rich lands and woodlands intersected by stream. —Strongly recommended by Head Agents: TRESIDDER & Co., as above. (4,391)

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HITCHIN 6 miles. Attractive **SMALL VILLAGE HOUSE.** 3 reception, bath, 4-5 bedrooms. Main services. Telephone. Outbuildings. **ACRE GARDENS** including well-stocked kitchen garden.—TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (21,690)

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DEVON, BETWEEN EXETER AND TAUNTON

Within 12 miles of Sidmouth.

AN HISTORICAL RESIDENTIAL ESTATE

including

IMPOSING RESIDENCE, 600 feet altitude, wonderful views. All kinds of sport. Fishing within two miles. 5 reception, 17 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms. Company's electric light. Approached by two drives. **LODGE, 4 COTTAGES,** pleasure grounds, park and woodlands with romantic walks.

OLD BRITISH FORT OF GREAT ARCHÆOLOGICAL IMPORTANCE, HOME FARM.



In all **207 ACRES**, offering great possibilities

THE WHOLE PRODUCING (actual and estimated), £500 PER ANNUM
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POSSESSION OF RESIDENCE 3 MONTHS AFTER CESSATION OF HOSTILITIES.
Plan and full particulars of **RIPON, BOSWELL & Co.,** Land Agents and Surveyors, 8, Queen Street, Exeter.

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(1/6 per line. Min. 3 lines.)

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ABERUTHVEN ESTATE
2 miles from Auchterarder, 3 miles from Glen-eagles Station and Golf Courses.

Area 1,040 acres including 4 valuable farms, Salmon and Sea Trout fishing, and a considerable area of woodland. The property, which has no mansion house, forms a capital investment with good sport and includes an Estate Cottage suitable for enlargement. The farms are let on lease until March, 1947 at a total rental of £956 ss. 10d. Timbered Woodlands and Plantations of over 50 acres. Salmon and sea trout fishing in the River Earn and Ruthven water. For SALE by AUCTION at a date to be arranged later, unless previously sold privately.

Solicitors: Messrs. W. & F. Haldane, W.S., 4, North Charlotte Street, Edinburgh.
Auctioneer and Sole Selling Agent:
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90, Princes Street, Edinburgh.

FOR SALE

BERKSHIRE. An attractive Country Residence, 3½ miles Reading, 7 bedrooms, 3 reception rooms, bathroom. Garage and stables. Gardener's cottage, 5 acres. £7,500 Possession on completion. Tel.: Tilehurst 67315, or write BOX 605, c/o A. H. GRANTHAM AND Co., Advertising Agents, Reading.

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LINCS. Excellent 200-acre Corn and Potato Farm. Modern house. Vacant possession.—Box 147.

SCOTLAND. For sale, beautifully situated House. Southern aspect, excellent view. 15 rooms with all modern conveniences. Garage, cottages. Walled garden and about 400 acres of land, mostly woodland.—Apply: FRASER & ROSS, Solicitors, Inverness.

FOR SALE

ABERDEENSHIRE. For Sale, Small Sporting Freehold Estate, grouse and mixed bag. Property includes some hill land and 5 agricultural holdings, approximately 1,000 acres in all, with immediate vacant possession of 1 farm. Excellently situated, station 3 miles.—Further particulars: ESTATE OFFICE, Lalimli, Tarland, Aberdeenshire.

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SUFFOLK, WEST. 8 miles from Bury St. Edmunds. Residential Sporting and Agricultural Estate of about 1,291 acres, including 3 productive farms (suitable for growing vegetable crops), 260 acres of mature woodland, parkland and mansion, cottages, etc., all let and producing £1,150 per annum. For sale as a whole, or mansion and park might be sold separately.—Apply: ALFRED SAVILL AND SONS, Land Agents and Surveyors, 51A, Lincolns Inn Fields, W.C.2 (Tel.: Holborn 8741).

SUSSEX AND HANTS. A golfer's paradise on the borders of. Adjoining and overlooking golf links at Rowlands Castle, about 12 miles west of Chichester. Facing south with wonderful woodland views. Within 10 minutes walk Southern Electric, 1½ hours London. Photograph available. A choice modern Sussex Cottage type property (London architect), containing hall, sitting and dining rooms intercommunicating by oak panelled sliding doors. Study, kitchen, 6 beds, 2 baths, 3 w.c.s. Central heating. Oak flooring and exceptionally well appointed. Coy.'s water. Electricity and main drainage. Well matured garden, in all 1½ acres. Garage and washdown. Price £8,250 freehold (immediate possession if required).—Particulars from Sole Agent: W. J. EYERS, 32, Southgate, Chichester (Tel. 2851).

WANTED

GLOS, OXON, WORCS, BUCKS, BERKS. Wanted, Cottage or House with meadow or small holding. Up to £3,000, according to condition and amenities. Possession by arrangement.—BOX 218.

GLOUCESTER, within 5 miles of. Wanted to rent or purchase, Modernised Residence having minimum of 3 large reception and 6 bedrooms, with garage and standing in own grounds.—Full particulars to BOX 230.

HAMPSHIRE. Wanted to purchase with 250 acres with old character residence (modernised), 10 bedrooms, good farmhouse, pasture and accredited buildings. Not clay soil. Or Residence of 100 acres and Dairy Farm of 120 acres separately. No commission required.—Write in confidence to "IRONCLAD," c/o JACKSON STOPS & STAFF, 8, Hanover Street, London, W.1 (Tel.: Mayfair 3316/7).

HERTS, WEST. Urgently required. Unfurnished Cottage, or Small House of character. 3-4 bedrooms, 2 reception rooms, modern kitchen, garage, main electricity, telephone. Within reasonable distance of station. To rent, or would consider buying.—KEMP, 5, Fitzroy Square, W.1.

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NORFOLK or SUFFOLK. Wanted to purchase, small Residential Estate, 500-1,000 acres, decent land with good shooting; some woodland liked.—(APPLICANT P. J.), WOODCOCK & SON, Ipswich.

PORTSMOUTH, vicinity Main Line. Wanted to buy or rent unfurnished, near village, House, 5-6 bed, 3 sitting, 2 bath, garden, paddock if possible. Possession from now till 3 months after German armistice.—BOX 221.

SHREWSBURY or OSWESTRY AREA. Wanted, small Country House, 4-5 bed, 1 to 3 acres or large garden. Garage. About £2,500. Near rough shooting and fishing.—BOX 219.

SOLWAY, on or near. To Rent, July, August, September, 1945, a House able to sleep 10. A little rough shooting.—BOX 231.

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BERKS and BORDERS OF ADJOINING COUNTIES, especially concerned with the Sale of Country Houses and Estates.—Messrs. NICHOLAS, 1, Station Road, Reading, Tel. 441.

BERKS, BUCKS and OXON.—GIDDY'S, Maidenhead (Tel. 54), Windsor (Tel. 73), Slough (Tel. 20048), Sunningdale (Ascot 73).

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SUFFOLK and EASTERN COUNTIES. WOODCOCK & SON, Estate Agents, Surveyors, Valuers and Auctioneers. SPECIALISTS IN COUNTRY PROPERTIES. (Tel.: Ipswich 433.)

SUSSEX, SURREY, HAMPSHIRE and KENT. To buy or sell a Country Estate, House or Cottage in these counties consult A. T. UNDERWOOD & Co., Three Bridges, Sussex (Crawley 528), amalgamated with JOHN DOWLER & Co., Petersfield, Hants (Petersfield 359).

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KNIGHTSBRIDGE HOUSE

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OFFICES

West Byfleet
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Offices

ONE OF THE MOST BEAUTIFUL HOMES IN SURREY

c.4

Hour's train journey. Unspoilt surroundings and close to well-known Golf Course.

FASCINATING 14th-CENTURY RESIDENCE

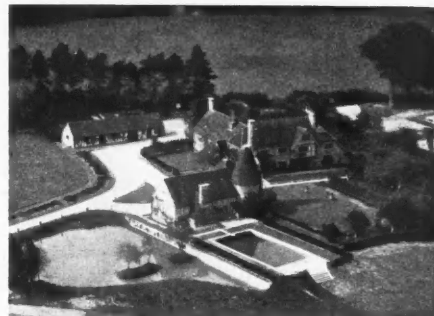
Entrance hall, 3 reception rooms, dance room and minstrel gallery, 9 bedrooms (with lavatory basins), 4 luxurious bathrooms, model offices. Central heating. Co.'s electric light and water. Telephone. Modern drainage.

STABLING. GARAGE. FARMBUILDINGS. 3 COTTAGES. WONDERFUL OLD OAK BEAMS, FLOORS, STAIRCASE AND PANELLING.

INEXPENSIVE GROUNDS

In keeping with the property. Hard and grass courts, swimming pool. Well-stocked kitchen garden. First-rate arable, pasture lands and woodlands, in all 126 ACRES FOR SALE FREEHOLD EARLY POSSESSION.

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DEVON

c.3

*About 400 feet above sea level.**Midst the exceptional beauty of Exe Valley with its wooded hillsides. Convenient to an old market town about 12 miles Dulverton, 15 miles Exeter.*INTERESTING CHARACTER HOUSE
PORTION DATING BACK TO 12TH CENTURY

5 reception, 13 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Main services. Radiators. Garages and outbuildings.

INEXPENSIVE GROUNDS WITH LAWN TERRACE (overlooking River Exe), FRUIT AND VEGETABLE GARDENS, in all about

3 1/4 ACRES

LOW PRICE FREEHOLD

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(Tel.: Kensington 1490. Extn. 807.)

SOUTHERN SLOPE of the CHILTERNs c.2

*Within a mile of Station, with excellent train service to Baker Street, Marylebone, and the City.***MODERN LABOUR-SAVING HOUSE** standing high and with beautiful views. 2 reception, loggia, 7 bedrooms, bathroom. Main water and electricity. Central heating throughout. Heated garage. Gardener's bungalow with bathroom. Delightful gardens, with hard tennis court and some grassland, in all about 5 ACRES. **FOR SALE, FREEHOLD.** Further details of the Agents: HARRODS LTD., 62/64, Brompton Road, S.W.1. (Tel.: Kensington 1490.)OPPOSITE THE ENTRANCE TO
STANMORE GOLF COURSE c.2*In the best Residential part. 1/2 mile from Station.*WELL BUILT AND BEAUTIFULLY
FITTED RESIDENCE

with 3 reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, 1 dressing room, 2 bathrooms.

All main services. Partial central heating. Fitted basins in bedrooms. GARAGE FOR 3 CARS.

Delightful Garden of about 3/4 ACRE

FOR SALE, FREEHOLD

HARRODS LTD., 62/64, Brompton Road, S.W.1.
(Tel.: Kensington 1490. Extn. 809.)ADJOINING AND OVERLOOKING
WORPLESDON GOLF COURSE

c.2

WITH PRIVATE GATEWAY THERETO.

*In a lovely position. 1 mile from Station, with electric trains to Waterloo.***MODERN LABOUR-SAVING HOUSE**, beautifully built and fitted. 3 reception, 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Main water. Electricity. Central heating throughout. Fitted basins in bedrooms. Garage for 2 large cars. Delightful Garden and Grounds, together with prolific Orchard, in all about 4 ACRES. **FREEHOLD, £9,000**, or offer.

Inspected and recommended by

HARRODS LTD., 62/64, Brompton Road, S.W.1.
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BUDLEIGH SALTERTON

c.3

*Convenient to the Sea and the East Devon Golf Links.***A WELL-APPOINTED FREEHOLD RESIDENCE.** 3 reception, 6 bedrooms, bathroom. All main services. Garage. Lovely pleasure gardens, well-stocked fruit and vegetable garden, greenhouse, the area extending to about 1 ACRE. **VERY REASONABLE PRICE.**HARRODS LTD., 62/64, Brompton Road, S.W.1.
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ANGMERING-ON-SEA

c.4

*Actually facing the Sea.***CHARMING FREEHOLD RESIDENCE.** Small hall, 2 reception, sun room, downstairs cloakroom, 6 or 7 bed and dressing rooms, 2 bathrooms (4 with lavatory basins). All companies' mains. Garage with 2 rooms. Well laid out gardens of about **HALF AN ACRE. PRICE £3,500.** Immediate possession.HARRODS LTD., 62/64, Brompton Road, S.W.1.
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CHARMING ARCHITECT-PLANNED MODERN (1937) HOUSE standing on high ground, in secluded and most desirable position, conveniently situate, completely labour-saving, and offered with possession upon completion. 4 bedrooms, gentleman's dressing room, well-fitted bathroom, separate w.c., cloakroom with basin and w.c., lounge-dining room 34 ft. 6 ins. by 14 ft., model kitchen service hatch, scullery. Garage. All main services. Drive approach. Timbered garden attractively disposed about 1/2 ACRE. **ONLY £3,950 for Immediate Sale.** Strongly recommended by the Owner's Sole Agents: HARRODS LTD., High Street Haslemere (Tel. 607), or Station Approach, West Byfleet (Tel. 149).

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c.2

MODERN ARCHITECT-BUILT HOUSE. 3 reception, 5 bedrooms, bathroom. All main services. Central heating. Double garage. Stable and outbuildings. Delightful gardens and grounds of about 1 1/4 ACRES. **FREEHOLD, £6,000.** Further details of the Agents: HARRODS LTD., 62/64, Brompton Road, S.W.1.
(Tel.: Kensington 1490.)GRAND SITUATION ON THE SURREY
HILLS

c.4

*Under 20 miles from London amid rural surroundings. Magnificent views.***REPLICA OF AN OLD SUSSEX FARMHOUSE.** Approached by drive and containing hall, 4 reception, 7 bed and dressing, 3 bathrooms, complete offices. Garage for 2 or more cars. Chauffeur's flat. Central heating. Co.'s water. Electric light. Telephone. Fascinating garden, with extensive lawns, well-stocked kitchen garden, woodlands, paddock, etc., in all about 4 1/2 ACRES. **FOR SALE FREEHOLD**, with early possession. Inspected and strongly recommended byHARRODS LTD., 62/64, Brompton Road, S.W.1.
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EASTBOURNE

c.4

*Choice situation. Easy reach of Sea and Station.***WELL-APPOINTED RESIDENCE.** Hall, 2 large reception, downstairs cloakroom, 6 bed and dressing rooms (2 with lavatory basins), 2 bathrooms, good offices. Central heating. Independent hot water supply. Companies' mains. Garage. Good garden stocked with fruit trees, 2 ponds, etc. **ONLY £5,500 FREEHOLD.**HARRODS LTD., 62/64, Brompton Road, S.W.1.
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AMID RURAL SURROUNDINGS*About 4 miles from Canterbury and 1 1/2 miles from Sea.*16th-CENTURY COTTAGE STYLE
RESIDENCE

WITH MODERN ADDITIONS.

3 reception, 4 bedrooms, dressing room, bathroom. Electric light. Main services.

GARAGE, USEFUL OUTBUILDINGS.

MATURED GROUNDS WITH ORCHARD, HEDGES, in all about

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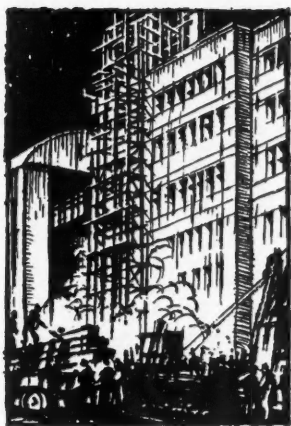
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Mr. Chase to Mr. Gardener

9, The Grange, Chertsey, Surrey.

OCTOBER.

DEAR MR. GARDENER,

I always think of October as LETTUCE MONTH, as from a cloche point of view this is the crop which concerns us most. First of all, there are the plants sown in August; these must be protected at once. Unless the varieties chosen were very hardy ones, they will not stand much frost, and in protecting themselves against the weather in the open, they develop a coarseness which makes them far inferior to the same sort when covered with cloches.

Now, too, is the time to sow for the Spring. I think "May King" is the best variety, but if you are very insistent on having a small lettuce, you might try "Cheshunt Early Ball" if you can get the seed.

10 Days of 'Soil Warming'

Seed cannot germinate properly in low soil temperatures, so you must set about preparing the ground at once, as it should have cloches over it for ten days or so before the seed goes in. This will warm it up nicely, and make all the difference. Rake down the soil to the finest possible tilth, prepare drills half an inch deep and sow very thinly. This last point is very important, as later on an overcrowded seed bed may lead to an attack of botrytis and the loss of all your plants. You will notice that I have assumed that you will be sowing in a seed-bed and planting out the seedlings early in the New Year. But many gardeners do not transplant at all, and if you have cloches and ground to spare and can sow where the plants will remain until they are cut, you will get—on the average—bigger heads and finer hearts, and they will come in a week or more earlier.

Ripen off under Cloches

Nearly all of you will have been growing tomatoes, judging by what I have seen in our district, but all growth will have stopped by now in any but the very warmest parts of the country. Of course, the unripe fruit can be ripened off indoors in paper, in drawers, in blankets—there are many different ways. But paper is scarce, drawers have a habit of being full, and blankets are now finding their way on to the beds again. So why not use cloches?

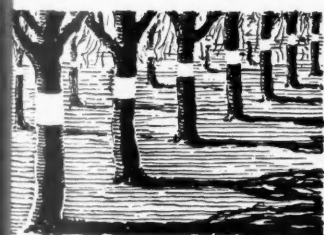
Strip the fruit from the plants, and collect all those which need ripening, spreading them on dry earth or grass, or on straw if you have any. Cover with cloches, and keep the ends of the row closed, unless the temperature becomes unexpectedly high. The tomatoes can be packed together quite tightly. Do not put them on stone or metal, or any good conductor of heat. If you do and the weather turns hot, you may get your fruit burnt and spoiled.

Chiefly concerning Carrots

This month you should be pulling carrots which were sown in August, and you can, if you wish, make a further sowing. Warm the ground with cloches for ten days, as before, and choose an "early" quick-growing variety. Now this sowing will be ready from the point of view of size while the roots are still yellow. This is because sun is needed to turn them red. If left in the ground, the roots will redden in time; but if you are unaffected by colour, and only influenced by taste, you will be pulling very early.

In the North an early variety of pea may be sown this month and Spring cabbage sown outdoors in August may be planted out now under cloches.

J.H. Chase



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COUNTRY LIFE

Vol. XCVI. No. 2490

OCTOBER 6, 1944



Bertram Park

LADY BONHAM

Lady Bonham is the only daughter of Colonel and Mrs. F. L. Pardoe, of Bartonbury, Cirencester, Gloucestershire, and her husband, Captain Sir Antony Bonham, Bt., the Royal Scots Greys, is the only son of the late Major Sir Eric Bonham and of Lady Bonham, of Crudwell, Malmesbury, Wiltshire.

Their marriage took place early this year

COUNTRY LIFE

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TEMPORARY AND PERMANENT HOUSING

SO much has been said and written lately about the Portal house—the Government's temporary steel bungalow—that many people forget that it is something apart from the main housing effort. The display at Northolt of new experimental types of permanent houses by the Ministry of Works, and points that emerged in the debate last week on the Housing (Temporary Accommodation) Bill, can be welcomed as enabling a more balanced view to be formed as between long-term and short-term plans. Besides the steel bungalow, the Government has approved two other types of temporary house, one of light steel frame with asbestos cement external walls, and one of pre-fabricated units of wood covered with asbestos sheeting, both of which will be put into production in January, output to reach its peak in mid-1945; whereas production of the steel bungalow cannot be started quite so soon. From that it appears that the Portal house will be neither the only nor the prevailing type of temporary house. If the remarkable results in speed of erection claimed for some of the Northolt types of permanent house can be substantiated, Mr. Lyttelton implied that these will be built instead of temporary houses. At present applications for temporary houses from local authorities number 110,515. From that it seems there is reluctance in some places to undertake temporary programmes, at least until more is known of the possibilities of permanent building. But it is clear, from the new clauses enabling local authorities to make virtually compulsory purchases of land for this kind of housing, that the Government regards the provision of a much larger number as a necessity.

Many authorities, like the majority of the public, are probably deterred by fears of not being able to get rid of the temporary houses when their 10-years life is supposed to expire. Mr. Harcourt Johnston emphasised the Government's desire that temporary should be replaced by permanent buildings as soon as possible, but the amendment proposed to enable this—"that the Minister may, if requested by the local authority after 10 years, remove" them—does not, on the face of it, go far to allay this presentiment. Yet it is obvious that removal must depend chiefly on the progress made with realising the long-term plan for the building of 4,000,000 permanent houses in 10 or 12 years at a comparable cost; of these, the target is 300,000 in the first two years.

The Northolt experimental houses afford, in several cases, striking evidence of how delays can be avoided: by the use of materials alternative to the customary brick and timber; by using pre-fabricated components; and, by

these and other means, reducing the man-hours required in erection—in one case to 900 per dwelling as compared with the average of 2,100 for a normal house. This is for a block of four flats, each having an area of 900 ft. super, in which the roof is erected first on a steel framework, enabling work to go on in all weathers, and the internal parts are factory made. A design sponsored by the Iron and Steel Federation adopts the technique of steel framing to small houses, enabling unusual elasticity of internal planning and a wide variety of walling; a pair of such houses could, it is claimed, be erected in three weeks. The uses of various types of concrete are also demonstrated convincingly. Mr. Hicks has given the figure of £759 as the cost of a brick house of 862 ft. super on a 500-house site. In short, there is sound reason for belief that, if all parties co-operate loyally, the involved problems and difficulties of both the long- and the short-term Housing campaigns should be overcome satisfactorily.

AN OMEN

*AN omen has ennobled me to-day,
Doves from retreat in neighbouring elms and
limes*

*Whirr softly down at frequent feeding-times
To pick my garden over; as they may,
My leave is freely given. Yet, aloof,
At sight of me suspiciously they rise,
Convinced that still in man some danger lies.
But one to-day settled upon my roof,
A sweet and comfortable bird of Kent,
Surveying his domain, and crooned content.
A thrush among the broad catalpa leaves,
Unheeding, all his repertory tried,
Artist absorbed and never satisfied
With hours of practice on long summer eves.
Then miles away a murmur started, grew,
Changed to a spiteful note, as it drew near,
Vibrant malignity: the thrush in fear
Scuttled, as overhead the bomb snarled through.
Guns lumped and cracked a minute. But the dove
Remained, when all was clear, to talk of love.*

H. S. VERE HODGE.

THE FUTURE OF THE COUNTRY HOUSE

SATISFACTORY as is the forty-ninth Report of the National Trust as the account of a stewardship for which we should indeed be grateful, it does not conceal the difficulties and perplexities involved in the self-imposed task of acquiring and saving from dereliction as many as possible of the old houses which enshrine so much of this country's history. They are losing their historic function as the social centre of art and politics and sport. Taxation continues at a level which makes it almost impossible that country houses can long continue to be maintained by private individuals. For the ancient houses of those who made the history of England the times are out of joint. The National Trust offers the only feasible method by which their fabric and their setting—if not the spirit that once informed them—may be preserved untarnished. Many public institutions have declared themselves anxious to occupy large country houses, so far without result so far as the Trust is concerned. Regarding their use as holiday guest-houses the Trust, as the secretary said in a recent letter to *The Times*, are always most sympathetic to such plans. It is necessary to bear in mind, however, both the cost of adapting buildings to uses for which they were not designed and the difficulty of reaching a compromise whereby an institution, for instance, may have use of parts or the whole of a house without detriment to its artistic character.

CROSS-BREEDING OR PURE-BREEDING?

NOW that the seeding down of long leys is replacing permanent grass, it is more than ever necessary that, having gone to such trouble to grow a high proportion of animal feeding-stuffs, this energy should not be wasted by feeding the results to inferior animals which will give no proper return either in milk or meat. Dr. John Hammond's recent appeal for organisation of the industry so as to get rid of no-purpose cattle by the procedure of the seedsman

who produces pure breeding stocks, contains a most useful discussion of the place of pure-breeding and cross-breeding in raising beef and dairy cattle. For beef cattle, where all the progeny are to be slaughtered, he recommends the following of sheep-breeding practice. In the first crosses between two pure breeds the defective characters of each tend to disappear and the good ones tend to be dominant. Also methods of cross-breeding for beef may be used as they are in sheep, to bridge the gap between hardy slow-maturing hill breeds and early-maturing highly improved feeding types. In dairy cattle, however, where the crosses are not slaughtered, if breeding goes on from the cross-bred animals, the bad characters hidden by the first cross soon make their appearance again, and this, says Dr. Hammond, is just what has been happening in commercial dairy cattle. In dairy herds, the aim should be to breed pure or to "grade-up" to a high-producing pure breed, so as to avoid the breaking up into undesirable types in subsequent generations and into the no-purpose type of cow.

CHRIST CHURCH MEADOW

THAT a book should have been written about the future of a field will not surprise those to whom its name conjures up the beauty of Oxford in May, and who realise the appalling traffic problem inherent in Oxford's geographical position and historic plan. What will surprise many is that *Towards a Plan for Oxford* (Faber, 6s.), championing a noble roadway skirting the river side of Christ Church Meadow from the Ifley Road to Folly Bridge, comes from an artist and architect of Mr. Laurence Dale's evident sensibility. At first view the project is unthinkable. But what are the alternatives? Oxford University is now sandwiched between two industrial towns, Oxford and Cowley, that have no communication except through the University, where a main north and south traffic route also flows. The by-passes have proved a failure, and anyhow do not affect the intense local traffic. A loop-way south of the river would be five times longer and twice as costly as the Meadow way, involving a viaduct crossing the Eights reach diagonally, and of doubtful efficacy. If, as is intended, the college barges are going to be replaced by boathouses lower down stream, the river side of the Meadow will lose its present character in any case. So Mr. Dale, having considered all alternatives, and the plight of old Oxford, for seven years, begins to convince us that there is no other way to preserve the soul of the University than by linking its two neighbours by this way. He would make a virtue of the necessity: a stately, terraced, way, treed and balustraded, the traffic on which will be almost unseen from the Meadow, but which would command a view of Oxford's backs as fine as those of Cambridge.

DEATH STOWED AWAY

IN the latest issue of *The Journal of Animal Ecology* Mr. Charles Elton mentions that the European slug and the chickweed have both reached Macquarie Island, in the remote Subantarctic, and, more generally, that there may now be discerned the beginnings of a breakdown (caused by man's development of transport) of Wallace's zoogeographic realms. The handsome but deadly malaria-carrying mosquito is thought to have first come to Brazil from West Africa in 1930, via a fast French destroyer, but subsequent arrivals are known to have been borne by aircraft. The insect established itself and in the next 10 years brought malaria to hundreds of thousands of people. Thanks to the Rockefeller Foundation *Anopheles gambiae* was completely extirpated from Brazil before Christmas 1940. With the prospect of inter-continental air transport developing on a colossal scale, after the war the dangers are too obvious to need much underlining; but it may be worth adding that 1,503 specimens of insects and spiders have been recorded as arriving in Brazil on aeroplanes from Africa, and that among them have been the tsetse of sleeping sickness and *Aedes (Stegomyia) aegypti*, vector of urban and maritime yellow fever.

A COUNTRYMAN'S NOTES . . .

By

Major C. S. JARVIS

IS the Muscovy, or musk, duck immune to foxes? A neighbour of mine has recounted the successful rearing of a family of this breed in the open and quite unprotected, on fox-infested land where nightly massacres of poultry occur, and where failure to fasten the door of the hen-house on only one night of the year is viewed as a matter of course by the wholesale slaughter of the inmates. The parent pair of Muscovies were acquired in December and given the run of the garden, with its two small ponds and some acres of rough ground adjoining. A small doorless shelter was provided, but this was seldom used. In due course the female bird was reported missing, and from the periodical absences of the drake it was concluded that a clutch of eggs had been laid somewhere in the rough, but the actual nest was not discovered. Unfortunately, when the hatch was about due, a forest fire swept through heather, birch and bracken, and it was feared that the Muscovy mother must have succumbed, but she reappeared the following morning alone—her family, whether in embryo or being, having been destroyed in the fire.

Immediately she started a second clutch, and this time the nest was located in the lower regions of a thick yew wind-break where 12 ducklings were hatched out just before D Day. The invasion weather which followed killed off five of the young birds, but the remaining seven with their parents have had the free run of the place ever since, together with the grazing rights on the adjoining Forest, taking advantage of the doorless shelter only on rainy nights; and not one bird of the whole family has been taken by a fox.

FROM my experience of vulpine activities in this part of the world I should say there must be some explanation of this extraordinary immunity from raids. The drake, like all the males of his species, is most pugnacious and terrifying, and has routed the household dog and cat on several occasions, but it would take something more than a fighting duck to deter a hungry fox, seeing that the most redoubtable game cocks have been killed as easily as six-months-old pullets. The Muscovy duck has, as his other name suggests, a musky odour which comes from his preen gland, and with an old drake this is so strong that the meat is unpalatable. It is possible that on this account a fox will not touch a Muscovy, young or old, and this would seem to be the only explanation of an immunity which otherwise almost amounts to a miracle.

THE Muscovy duck, *cairina moschata*, is something of a mystery. One book of reference gives his country of origin as Uruguay, while another, equally reliable, states that he hails from Mexico; he is to be seen as the domestic duck in almost every village in the Middle East, but seldom in the Western Hemisphere, and he has a Russian name. The first specimen I ever saw was in the most westerly, and therefore the most isolated, of the Libyan oases, Bahkla, and from this I obtained the impression that it was an Egyptian variety, whereas as a matter of fact, he was more of a stranger in the land than I myself.

It was in this oasis I learned that the Muscovy has a musky flavour, because I lunched with the *omdeh* (mayor) on the occasion of my first visit, and according to custom we sipped coffee and talked while the meal was being



J. A. Brimble

THE CLIFFS IN SUNSHINE: CHEDDAR GORGE, SOMERSET

killed and prepared. As I did not hear the usual chicken screams which is in the nature of a dressing gong announcing that lunch will be served in one hour's time, I hoped it would be lamb, but I was most unfortunately wrong. It was Muscovy drake—the strange bird I had seen in the yard—and I was sorry that my arrival had sounded his death-knell for both his sake, and mine!

THE opening up to the general and bathing public (the two varieties were not synonymous this chilly summer) of sea beaches of the south coast reminds one of Hengistbury Head, that oasis of marsh, sand and heather, which forms a small peninsula where the Avon and Stour rivers meet in one winding estuary. On either side of the isolated headland, as far as the eye can see, there stand upon the shores rows upon rows of modern buildings and, for the most part, not the most beautiful buildings. Villadom, however, ends abruptly at the neck of the peninsula, where an ancient British dyke and ramp, part of the defences in Cæsar's day, marks the boundary of the headland, and beyond lies one square mile of wild foreshore and moorland.

Hengistbury Head was handed over to the Bournemouth Corporation by Mr. Gordon Selfridge some 10 years ago, and until the war started it was used as a public park in the best sense of the word, for there were no misguided attempts to improve its amenities, and it was left in its natural state as a sanctuary for wild life—a veritable oasis in a land of bricks and

mortar. It is to be hoped, when, with peace, the boroughs of this land embark on their extensive new building programmes, that Hengistbury Head will be spared, and that the temptation to erect a seaside concrete casino with dance hall and bathing pools will be resisted.

IN common with most of our foreshores Hengistbury Head has been in occupation of our armed Forces and barred to the general public since 1940, and the officer commanding, who has by virtue of his position acquired the shooting and fishing rights, says that from a sporting view the results of the four years' seclusion and privacy have been on the whole disappointing. The area has not suffered from aerial activity, either hostile or friendly, as much as some other spots along the south coast, but the likely stretch of boggy marshland along the estuary has held very few duck, and the high bit of moorland harbours only one covey of French partridges.

Mr. Brewer, the keeper of Hengistbury, who is a natural-historian of no mean order and a bird-lover, has many rare visitors to report and, among other exhibits, a live red adder or viper which at first was thought to be a distinct species. I remember that years ago the vipers of this country were considered to be of two varieties, the common and the red, but understand that the reddish colour is now attributed to sex, for all the specimens of this colour examined by experts have proved to be females.

WHO WAS ROBIN HOOD?

By J. W. WALKER

FEW questions in literary history have given rise to greater diversity of opinion than Who was Robin Hood? Some writers assign an historical origin to the forest outlaw; others have denied his existence and have asserted that he was a mere creature of the imagination, a poetical myth, or a hero sprung from the mists of Teutonic paganism; but to those of us who do not believe in the theories that would make of Robin Hood an Aryan sun-myth, a forest elf, or a creation of the ballad muse, he is a real personality, a man who exemplified the spirit of liberty against the cruel forest laws and the galling tyranny of the nobles and the chief men of the Church, who at that time wronged the poor as much as did the lords.

William Langland in his *Vision of Piers the Plowman* (1362) typifies the seventh deadly sin in the character of Sloth, an ignorant chantry priest, who confesses that he knows "rymes of Robyn Hood and Randolf, erle of Chestre" better than his prayers, and can find a hare in a field more readily than he can read the lives of the saints. The writer, by coupling the name of Robin Hood with that of Randolf, Earl of Chester, who died in 1232, evidently believed in the veritable existence of Robin Hood.

A *Lytell Geste of Robyn Hode* is the oldest and most authentic ballad relating to the forest hero that has come down to us and is one of the finest in the English language. For beauty and dramatic power it is worthy of Chaucer, about whose time (1345-1400) it was written.

This ballad goes far to establish the existence of the outlaw and his position in life, that of a yeoman—disproving the assumption that he was of noble birth and a disinherited Earl of Huntingdon, for it was not until the end of the sixteenth century that such a claim was made for him by the play-writers who dignified him by such a title; also the time in which he lived, for in the last three "fyttes" (cantos) "Edwarde our comly kyng," who can only be Edward II, is repeatedly mentioned; and the place—for in the first fyfte so obscure a locality as "the Sayles on Watlynge strete" is named, showing that the unknown writer of the ballad must have had a very intimate acquaintance with the district of which he was writing.

The correspondence between the leading features of the *Lytell Geste* and such contemporary historical documents as the Wakefield Manor Court Rolls of the late thirteenth and early fourteenth centuries, and the Household Expenses Book of Edward II, preserved in the Public Record Office, are extraordinarily close, and prove that this ballad was founded on fact, though much embellishment and romantic fiction were undoubtedly added to Robin's real history.

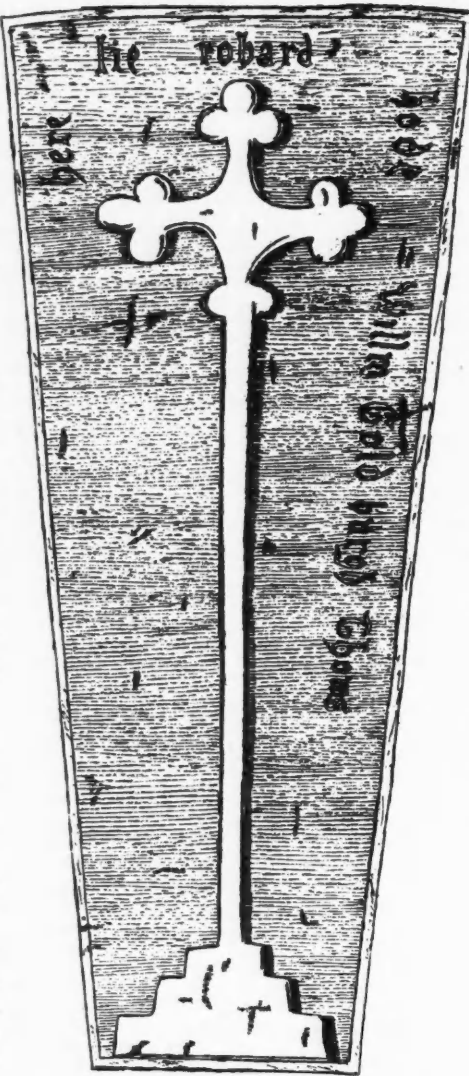
About 1290 there was born in the town of Wakefield a boy whom his parents named Robert. His father was probably one Adam Hood of that town, a prosperous man, who appears in the Wakefield Manor Rolls from 1274 to 1314 as a regular attender at the Manor Court as a juror, and may have been a forester in the employ of the Earl of Warenne, lord of the manor of Wakefield, for the ballad story is:

The father of Robin a forester was,
And he shot with a lusty strong bow.

As a boy Robin Hood was frequently brought before the Steward of the Manor Court for offences against the harsh forest laws.

On January 25, 1316, Robert Hood and his wife Matilda paid 2s. to the lord of the manor for leave to take a piece of waste land on Bichill, the market-place of Wakefield, of the length of 30 ft. by 16 ft. in breadth. On this land they built a house of five rooms.

Towards the end of that year Edward II called upon his nobles to raise a troop of their tenants as fighting men to oppose the Scots who were making frequent raids into Northum-



ROBIN HOOD'S TOMB AS IT WAS IN 1665

berland, and required Earl Warenne to provide 200 foot-soldiers for that purpose. In accordance with this command the manor bailiff was directed to enroll that number of the manorial tenants for service with the King's army. Robert Hood was one of those called upon to serve, but he did not attend the muster at the Moot Hall and was fined for not obeying the mandate. Probably he did not want to leave his young bride so soon after their marriage.

In 1317, John, the eighth and last Earl Warenne, caused Alice de Lascy, wife of Thomas, Earl of Lancaster, the lady being a consenting party, to be abducted from her husband's seat at Canford in Dorset and brought to his castle at Reigate. The Earl of Lancaster divorced his wife; as an act of reparation, and by a licence of the King, Earl Warenne made a grant of his manor of Wakefield to the aggrieved husband, who thus became lord of the manor of Wakefield, to whom the tenants owed allegiance.

Once again there was a call to arms, but this time it was by the Earl of Lancaster, who, distressed by Edward's misgovernment of the kingdom, broke into open rebellion, and early in 1322 called for a levy of his tenants, of whom 1,000 were to be archers completely armed with bows and arrows. Robert Hood must have been one of these archers, for his name does not appear in the list of those tenants of the manor who were fined for non-attendance at the muster.

At the battle of Boroughbridge, fought on

Tuesday, March 16, 1322, the Earl of Lancaster's army was defeated. The Earl was taken prisoner and executed at his own castle of Pontefract.

The designation of "Contrariant" was given to the Earl of Lancaster and to his adherents. Those who escaped the hazard of the battle and the axe of the executioner were outlawed, and their estates and property were forfeited to the Crown.

On May 18, 1322, Thomas de Eyvil, keeper of the castle of Pontefract, was appointed custodian and receiver of the lands that had fallen into the King's hands. He made a full report, known as the Contrariant Roll, which is preserved in the Manor Office, in which is given the name, the position of the property, and the rents received from March 4 to Michaelmas Day, 1322. Among these forfeitures is one "a rent of 23d. for a dwelling-house of five rooms of new construction on Bichill, Wakefield."

It seems almost certain that this dwelling-house was the one that Robert and Matilda Hood had built on Bichill six years previously, for it is mentioned in the Court Rolls of 1357 and 1358 as "a tenement on Bichill formerly in the tenure of Robert Hood."

This Contrariant Roll confirms the belief that Robert Hood was one of those who took part in the battle of Boroughbridge and was outlawed, his property being confiscated.

Robert Hood then betook himself to the recesses and thickets of Barnsdale, a large tract of forest in South Yorkshire, covering some 30 square miles, traversed by the Great North Road, the Watlynge strete of the *Lytell Geste*. Leland, in the time of Henry VIII, thus speaks of it: "Along on the lift hond a iij miles of betwixt Milburne and Feribrigge I saw the woodi and famos forest of Barnesdale, wher thay say that Robyn Hudde lyvid like an outlaw."

Here, as all the older traditions say, rather than at Sherwood, was Robin Hood's favourite retreat, and here, as the Sloane manuscript tells us: "he joynted unto himself many stout fellows of like disposicioun, amongst whom one called Little John was principal."

The wild life of the forest, the red, fallow and roe deer, the hares and rabbits, the bittern booming in the marshes, the herons on every river and stream wherein were salmon and trout, afforded an ample supply of food throughout the year; of fuel there was no lack, and the money of the waylaid nobles, abbots, bishops and other rich men provided the other necessities of life.

Here among others Robert Hood was joined by George-a-Green the Pinder of Wakefield, the Curtal Friar of Fountaine Dale in Nottinghamshire, Will Scathe-lock, or Scarlet as he is called by Shakespeare in *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, and Much, the Miller of Wakefield's son.

When the outlaws were assembled in Barnsdale Little John was ordered to read the rules of the company:

FIRSTLY. No man must presume to call our master By name of earl, lord, baron, knight or squire; But simply by the name of Robin Hood, That honest yeoman, stout and good.

ROBERT. Henceforth instead of Robert, I will be Robin Hood.

My wife Matilda shall be called Maid Marian. MATILDA. I am contented; henceforth let me be called Maid Marian.

Thus we see how the name of Robert became Robin, and that of his wife Matilda, Maid Marian.

In 1323, Edward II made a progress to the North. Leaving Westminster on April 3, he arrived at York on May 1; he spent May 20 to May 23, hunting in the royal park of Plumpton, two miles south of Knaresborough, where Robin Hood's disregard of the forest laws was forcibly brought to the King's notice.

Here begin a series of coincidences between

historic events and certain incidents as recorded in the *Lytell Geste*.

When he came to Plumpton parke,
He missed full many deere.
There where our kynge was wont to see
Full many herds to lie,
He could but see one only deere,
Whose hornes were broad and high.
The kynge was wonder wroth withall,
And swore he by the Trinite,
O wold that I had Robyn Hode,
I might see him with these eyes.

In the ballad of *The Noble Fisherman Robin Hood* it is:

Forish I were in Plumpton parke,
In chasing of the fallow deere.

The king then proceeded on his progress through North Yorkshire, crossed the Pennines and arrived at the abbey of Vale Royal in Cheshire on November 3. There he remained three days and said: "I will be at Nottingham within a fortnight and take I will Robyn Hood." Edward arrived at Nottingham on November 9, and was there certified that a great commotion had taken place in the number of the deer in the royal forest of Sherwood owing to Robin Hood and his men. Being greatly incensed he issued a proclamation, "as by the records in the Exchequer is to be seen," that whoever would take Robin Hood should have "a great summe of money."

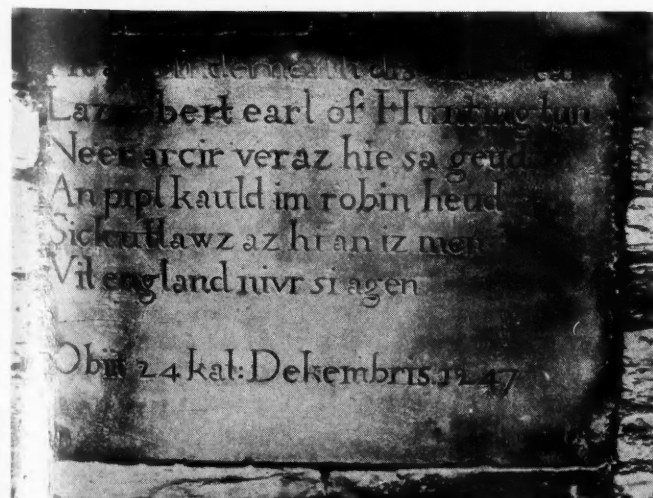
The king remained a fortnight at Nottingham in the hope of hearing of the capture of the outlaw; then a forester offered to lead the King into the presence of Robin Hood, and advised him to attire himself as an abbot with five of his knights as monks, and to ride into the forest. This proposal met with the King's approval; guided by the forester they rode into Sherwood Forest and met with Robin Hood standing by the way. The pseudo-abbot handed a letter sealed with a great red seal to Robin Hood, saying, "Edward our King greeteth thee, hath sent to thee his seal and biddeth thee come to Nottingham to tarry at meat and meal." Robin took the royal summons, and bowing to the abbot, said: "I love no man in all the world so well as I do my King."

Then before the abbot and his monks was set the King's own venison, good white bread, rich red wine and nut-brown ale. Robin blew his horn, and seven-score strong young men came racing up who fell on their knees before their master. On beholding this the King said: "His men are more at his bidding than my men be at mine."

An archery match followed, at the close of which the real rank of the pretended abbot was recognised by Robin Hood.

Robyn behelde our comly kynge
Wystfully in the face,
My lorde the kynge of Englande,
Now do I know you well.
I aske mercy, my lorde the kynge,
For me and all my men.

Robin's petition was granted on condition that he leave the greenwood and accept service in the King's Household in London.



THE INSCRIPTION ON THE STONE NEAR THE GRAVE

Now it is a singular and weighty coincidence that in a certain Exchequer document, the Household Expenses Account of Edward II, preserved in the Public Record Office, the name of Robyn Hood is found as one of the Grooms of the Chamber. One account is from July 8, 1323, to April 15, 1324; in this account payments are entered without specifying the names of the grooms employed, but in the accounts commencing on April 16, 1324, the names of the grooms, the number of days for which payment to each is made, the daily rate of pay, always 3d., the usual wage at that time (equivalent to 10s. of present money value), followed by a statement of deductions for any days of absence, are specified.

The entry in Norman-French in the *Journal de la Chambre* commencing on April 25, 1324, reads: "To Robyn Hod (and 28 others named) for their wages from the 24th day of March to the 21st day of April for twenty-eight days, grooms of the Chamber, at 3d. a day each, £10 3s."

Similar payments with deductions for days of absence are recorded each month; in June no payment was entered for Robyn Hod, but under July 22 it is stated: "To Robert Hood and six other grooms being with the King at Fulham by his command, from the 9th of June, arrears of wages at 3d. a day for twenty-one days with their pay to the 22nd of July." The last entry of payment to Robyn Hood was on November 27, 1324, when he received 28 days' pay.

According to the *Lytell Geste*, one day Robin Hood saw some young men practising archery; this stirred up memories of his forest life, so he made up his mind to leave the Court and return to the greenwood. In order to procure leave of absence he must find a plausible excuse, so under the pretext of sickness and a pilgrimage to the Chapel of St. Mary Magdalene in Barnsdale he requested permission to undertake the journey. The King granted his request, saying: "Seven nights I give thee leave, no longer to dwell from me."

Courteously Robin Hood took his leave of the King, and, according to the Exchequer accounts, "Robyn Hood, one of the grooms of the Chamber, being unable to work, was given by command five shillings." It has been suggested that this entry means that Robin Hood was a worn-out old groom pensioned off; but if so, the pension is too paltry, and moreover the Records contain no entry of Robin Hood's name before December, 1323, or after November, 1324, so this suggestion may be ruled out. This gratuity was probably for travelling expenses.

Robin Hood then returned to the greenwood, where he received an enthusiastic reception from his company, and as the *Lytell Geste* tells us:

Robyn dwelled in grene wode,
Twenty yere and two,
For all drede of Edward our kynge,
He would not leave it more.

If these 22 years give the approximate time that Robin Hood remained in the greenwood after leaving the King's service they bring the narrative to 1346. When King Edward III was in-



GATEHOUSE OF KIRKLEES PRIORY WHERE THE PRIORESS FIRST POISONED ROBIN HOOD AND THEN ALLOWED HIM TO BLEED TO DEATH

formed that Robin Hood and his band still held out in their sylvan haunts of Barnsdale and Sherwood, plundered wealthy Churchmen and nobles and killed his deer at their pleasure, he was much provoked and called a Council of State, at which it was resolved that 100 archers should be sent north to capture Robin Hood and to disperse his company.

According to tradition the fight took place near Wakefield, when the leader of the King's forces, a knight of the name of Sir William, was slain; the royal forces made their way back to London, but without Robin Hood.

The effects of age now began to tell upon Robin Hood; according to the Sloane manuscript, "he became distempered with cold and age, he had great payne in his lymes, his blood being corrupted; therefore to be eased of his payne by letting of blood, he repayed to the prioress of Kirklees, which some say was his cousin, a woman very skylful in physique and surgery."

At this time Elizabeth de Staynton was prioress of Kirklees. On his arrival at the priory Robin Hood was received by the prioress herself, who

gave him a brimming bowle,
And bade him drinke deep therein;
And she smiled when she poured for him
Ye sparkling wine; there was poison therein;
For herself had mingled the drugs with care.

She then bled Robin Hood, who was stupefied by the poisoned wine, and allowed him to bleed to death.

A wicked woman it was, I know
That nigh was of his kin;
The prioress of Kirklees,
She killed him by her sin.
It was a priest, Roger of Doncaster,
That was her own special,
By the prioress he lay,
And there did her beguile.
It was all for the love of him
She practised deadly wile;
Thus they by falsehood wrought the end
Of famous Robin Hood.

Feeling that his end was approaching Robin Hood said to Little John, who had come to his dying master:

Give me my bent bow in my hand,
And a broad arrow I'll let flee;
And where this arrow is taken up,
There shall my grave digged be.
They raised him on his couch and set
The casement open wide,
Sped on its way the feathered dart,
Robin sank back and died.

So died the body of Robin Hood, but his

spirit lives on throughout the centuries in the deathless ballads which are sung of him, and in the hearts of men and women who love freedom and liberty.

Robin Hood was not buried where his arrow fell, for the distance from the chamber in the gate-house where he died to his grave is 650 yds., far too great a distance for a dying man to shoot an arrow.

He was buried in unconsecrated ground just without the priory precincts on high ground overlooking the road from Mirfield to Brighouse.

In Grafton's *Chronicle* (1568) it is recorded: "upon his grave the sayde prioress did lay a very fayre stone, whereon the names of Robin Hood, William of Goldburgh and others were graven, which is to be seen there at this present."

Camden, the historian, writing in 1607, says: "at Kirklees nunnery Robin Hood's tomb

with a plain cross on a flat stone is shewn in the cemetery." Dr. Nathaniel Johnston made a drawing of the gravestone as it was in 1665, a copy of which is one of the illustrations to this article. The testimony of Leland, who speaks of Kirklees as the place "ubi nobilis exlex sepultus," is satisfactory evidence as to the tradition of Robin Hood's grave in the time of Henry VIII.

Inserted into the low wall surrounding the original gravestone is a square stone, 40 ins. by 30, bearing the following inscription:

Here underneath dis laitl stean
Laz robert earl of Huntingtun
Ne'er arcir ver az hie sa geud
An pipl kauld im robin heud
Sick utlawz az hi an iz men
Vil england nivr si agen.
Obiit 24 kal: Dekembris. 1247.

This epitaph is clearly a fabrication, and was probably concocted by Martin Parker, who in 1631 wrote *A True Tale of Robin Hood*. The Roman characters are not of early date; the spelling, so far as it deviates from common English, is not that of the West-Riding of Yorkshire; neither is the dialect.

At least four versions of this epitaph have appeared, which makes it probable that they were devised by various play-writers in the seventeenth century, and that the one above-quoted was carved upon the small square stone by some admirer and placed alongside the original gravestone.

May the time never come when England shall fail to have at call hearts as brave, as true, and as free as that of the greenwood hero Robin Hood!

VILLAGE CRICKET UNDER DIFFICULTIES

By LOUIS QUINAIN

AT the close of this, probably the last war-time season, it is pleasant to look back on five years of village cricket. It may seem that the game is irrelevant to a country policeman's beat. It is not to mine: although I am, as a friend neatly put it, the "local limb of the law," at times I like to feel that I am also a civilian resident. I play for the village team whenever duties allow.

There is another aspect. If a village policeman lives socially apart—especially in war-time—mixing with folks only when he is after a criminal or serving a summons, how can he hope to become really efficient? It is essential that he knows, and understands, all the people on his beat; it is essential that they know and understand him, too. That is how I look at things. Village life is an intimate affair, or should be, and unless people ask for trouble I never assert authority too freely. "Prosecution, not persecution," is a fair motto for any village constable; it pays him in the long run.

If there is one joy I shall miss on leaving the village, it is the Saturday afternoon's cricket on the green. Naturally, there are times when urgent police work interrupts my game. Once I was busy knocking up 43 runs—a record score for one who is supposed to be a bowler—when suddenly my wife appeared at the corner of our lane and beckoned me across. Divisional Office had rung up to say they had a report about a suspicious-looking character, with his inevitable notebook, on a common at the other end of the village. The next man on the batting list took my place while I went to investigate—in cream flannels, though I made quite sure there was a warrant card in my notebook before setting out.

When I returned half an hour later, the captain was scratching his head; three wickets had fallen since I left, and now, with eight runs needed for victory, the last batsmen were in. However, soon the next wicket fell and I was able to finish my innings. But I might as well have kept the pads off; after a couple of balls I poked one up for the first slip to bring off a nifty catch. Clearly "fifth columnists" and village cricket did not mix. We lost the match by two runs, and I have cursed that amateur naturalist and his notebook ever since.

Our pitch has only one disadvantage; it is on the small side, and, what with houses round the outskirts, hefty hitters have smashed more than one window. The club takes out an insurance policy every year and also rules that no boundary shall score more than four runs. So that, even if one lifts a slow bowler into the cucumber frames behind the Red Lion and is moved by that peculiar satisfaction that accompanies such an achievement, four runs is all one gets.

But, as old George the groundsman says: "Let them 'it as wants. You'll never stop 'em."

The truth of that remark was clear to me from the first season I played there. A certain cottage on the green was pretty careless about its blackout during my early days in the village. I had already warned the occupier, who did not seem to take much notice, and in the end I was obliged to report him for a summons.

A week or so later, after settling nicely to a slow bowler, I smote him clean over the boundary, and, as I watched the ball soar, that peculiar feeling of satisfaction was arrested literally in mid-air. Would it? Yes . . . No . . . Yes!

The tinkling was scarcely over when spectators began to laugh and clap, and you couldn't blame them, either. They had read the local news column. It was a tidy predicament, though; I did not know whether to laugh or look serious. After all, I could not just stand there and bow, so, to cover a sheepish grin, I inspected the crease, patted down imaginary bumps on the wicket and manipulated myself generally until the ball was returned. Never before, or since, has a big hit made me feel so uncomfortable.

After the match someone suggested that I had added insult to injury.

"No," said I, "they're both a policeman's privilege."

Being a keen spectator, and a sportsman, the occupier accepted my apologies and seemed

no more perturbed than when the magistrates had fined him £2 a fortnight previously.

In the Red Lion that evening, old George said that I was the first policeman in the village in 60 years to smash a window. I called a round of drinks for the players—and George. Without meaning it, I laid another unwritten law for the club; from then on, every batsman who smashed a window stood the team—and George—a round of drinks.

It looked as though I had set a fashion in window-smashing, for two seasons later, in 1942, our batsmen put up a record: five cottage windows, sundry tiles, and the window of a bus as passengers were alighting on the green. Each of these hits provided a round of drinks for the players, who teased Tom that he would have to find a larger pitch for next season. George did not agree.

"Blessus, no!" he exclaimed. "Let them 'it as wants. There can't be much wrong if the policeman doos it."

But I believe that, secretly, George had the pint of beer in mind.

DRAGON FLIES, BEES AND TROUT

THE reasons normally given, at any rate in Scotland, for the rises of trout on lochs (or the absence of such rises) are sun, cloud, rain, breeze, calm, mist on the hills, and soon. These weather conditions no doubt affect the causes, but they are not the direct causes themselves. The direct cause is the appearance of some insect, and the following is an account of a strange combination that produced a short sharp rise on Loch Arianas at the end of August.

We had reached the west end of the loch by boat about mid-day, and found a bay surrounded by reed, dead calm, since it was sheltered from the north wind. The sun shone, the water was glassy, and over the loch a number of red-bodied dragon flies were hawking quickly about. Presently we saw two rises near the reeds, and on the water near us two or three insects were spinning about on the surface. We rowed up to them and found that they were bumble bees, alive but unable to rise from the surface.

The nearest thing to a bumble bee in my fly-box was an imitation of that black insect, Bibio pomone, which I believe to be the father of a Zulu. He was on the small side for a bee, but he was black and buzzy and a first-class floater.

It was so dead calm that we did not dare to use the oars, but we softly poked the boat through the reeds until we were within shot of a rising fish. Then out went Bibio into a ring, where he sat poised on his stiff black hackles waiting for what might come to him. Presently little dimples appeared round him, and finally there was a hearty gulp, he disappeared and the gut dipped. The fish was a sea trout and had gulped so hard that the hook was in the back gill. From the same spot I could just reach

two more, landed one and lost the other, and in each case there were the preliminary dimples round the fly; presumably the fish was trying to make out which was the business end of the bee. Well, he found out in the end, and so did two brown trout.

Three other sea trout, one a really big one, were rising just off the reeds on the far side of the bay, and we made our way round the reeds towards them. Before we had arrived a cloud came, a breeze got up, the dragon flies retired to shelter, the bees flew safely over the loch and the rise was over. During it, I saw one sea trout leap about two feet into the air after a passing dragon fly, but he missed him.

I have no doubt that the bees on the water were runners (which they had not bothered or dared to pick up) from the dragon-fly attack. At any rate there was nothing else that I could see that could have caused them to fall into the water, and there was no wind to hinder their passage. Moreover, "No birds were flying overhead—There were no birds to fly."

I had nothing that could by the wildest stretch of imagination have passed for a dragon fly, or I should certainly have tried it. I subsequently since twice visited the same spot, but the dragon flies were not hunting, probably owing to wind, and there were no bees on the water and no rise of fish.

In regard to the trout's preliminary examination of the bee, I have watched at very close range a brown trout acting in exactly the same manner with a wasp and then suddenly making a quick gulp, or in some cases finking it altogether.

Anyhow my Bibio is a most useful bug; in addition to his successes on the loch, he caught five sea trout for me when he floated down the river one evening. ANTHONY BUXTON

STAR-FLIGHT OF THE SWIFTS

By HARALD PENROSE

THERE is a legend that the swifts spend the short summer nights soaring towards the stars. In the moonlight I have sometimes flown high above the silvered fields, wondering if I would find these birds. They may be there, but, if so, they are hard to discover. Perhaps the light, brightly luminous though it seems, is too dim to distinguish the black crescent of their wings; or, maybe, in all the vast emptiness of the starry night, it is too great a game of chance to find them; or the explanation possibly is even simpler—that they rise with the dusk only to drop down to their roosts as darkness increases. There is an instance recorded by Jacques Delarue of a pilot seeing swifts high at night, outlining against the moonlit clouds, but I have never been so fortunate. Yet I know that these birds are often to be found, thousands of feet up, long after sunset, and that in the pale light of early dawn they sometimes fly equally high—for I have seen them from both aeroplanes and gliders. Do they remain flying through the night? The evidence is tantalisingly obscure.

This interest began one evening, after I had been idly watching swifts and swallows skinning the aerodrome buildings. My aeroplane stood on the tarmac strip, but not until long after the sun had sunk in crimson splendour was it ready for flight.

As the aeroplane steadily climbed, the red rim of the sun became visible again, its reflection making a gold splash across the distant sea. Quickly, as hundreds of feet became thousands, its complete disc showed once more in the north-west sky, so that the upper air was charged with light, though the earth, far below, was dull and unfriendly with the death of day.

I gazed down at the cold grey veil that was drawing across the earth. It hid the smoothly contoured beauty of hills and vales, turning the patchwork of meadows and woods, and the erratic pattern of the hedgerows, into a desolate emptiness—which presently blossomed into scattered pin-points of lights as the villagers lit their lamps. Another few minutes and I knew it would be difficult to make my landing. Ten thousand feet the altimeter showed: ten minutes of descent that must be made immediately, my mind insisted.

The throttle was closed, the nose slanted down, and the whistling glide began towards the row of landing lights that had been set out on the aerodrome. As the aeroplane dropped lower, the horizon lost its brightness, grew more constricted, darker. I switched on the green, red, and white of the navigation lights. From 2,000 ft. groups of houses and trees could still be distinguished but details were blotted in deepening, dusky shadow that increased with each second of descent. The exhaust flickered a lilac tongue that intensified the darkness of the last few hundred feet, and I realised that the twinkling flare-path would indeed be necessary to judge the final part of my landing.

Two minutes later the aeroplane was being pushed into the hangar. It was a twilight darkness.

There was the faint murmur of talk, the short whistle of a distant train, the purr of a car racing down the main road—but these were noises that emphasised the quiet. I stood looking up at the first pale stars. Then, far above, I heard, unmistakably, a faint "svi-svi" and knew that the swifts were sweeping the dark air through which I had just flown.

There have been many other flights since then when, on summer evenings, I have noted the arrow-like passage of the swifts. Often they have been found soaring and fluttering at a height of 2,000 ft. above the roof-tops of the large village adjacent to the aerodrome; occasionally they have been observed at considerable altitudes. In ones and twos high up, in little groups low down, their distinctively shaped, dark forms are easy to see against the summer-green background of the meadows, and easier still when silhouetted against a clear blue sky.

At first it requires conscientious practice to look for birds. In time it becomes a subconscious reaction to observe bird flight, for perception grows sharper as, with increasing experience, the air becomes a natural environment. It is then—when the world is watched with the eye of a bird—that many of the so-called "problems" of natural life admit a perfectly normal explanation. The tactics of the hunting kestrel, the vision of the diving peregrine, the effortless soaring of a gull, the distinguishing of nesting sites, the selection of migration routes—in fact most of the characteristics of avian life—become things within man's understanding. There is a deep harmony in Nature which the magic stance of flight reveals.

So with the swifts: for it was soon found that when they flew high there was an association of thermal conditions giving gently uprising air. On this the insects are carried high, and the swifts and swallows follow them—more often than not in true soaring flight, with pointed

out of sight, we often discussed the probability of their flying in this manner the night long. It seemed a possible method of migratory flight on clear, star- or moon-illuminated nights. So, one July, a party of us, camping on the Purbecks with our gliders, determined to keep special watch. Occasionally in the day-time swifts would soar above the hill, but more often than not they were missing, and instead we had swallows, varying their wing-beats with spells of soaring, or lazily floating gulls and rooks. In the dusk, before turning in, we would listen a moment at the tent entrance to the night sounds—until attention wandered to the far lights of Poole and Bournemouth, gleaming across the water like carelessly flung handfuls of jewels. But, strain our ears as we might, we could never hear the ghost of a swift's call. The weather was not wholly suitable for gliding, but towards the end of the holiday, meteorological reports promised conditions for a long day's soaring on the morrow. Preparations were made for a start at dawn.

In the early hours the expected breeze



"I GAZED DOWN AT THE COLD GREY VEIL THAT WAS DRAWING ACROSS THE EARTH"

wings held stationary like a sailplane. Conditions have often been tested on such days with lightly loaded models of balsa-wood and paper, which drift upwards on the thermals and sometimes are carried out of sight.

In order to make soaring journeys, not only a light wing loading but a flat angle of glide is essential, and the characteristic giving this is the greatest possible span in relation to wing area. Since the swift has this desirably high "aspect ratio" it is not surprising to find these birds hawking food at extreme heights.

Of all British birds which I have so far observed from aircraft, the swift has been the highest flier; for one day I encountered one at 7,500 ft., and for half a minute I circled round him as he soared.

From that height, the bird and I could see the long line of the south coast, sweeping in a bold curve from misty Start Point to the snake's head of Portland where it jutted far into a gilded sea. Below us the tumbling heights of Dorset were shadowed undulations, forming no more than a grassy barrier between the hedged meadowlands of the north and the Channel, sparkling under the high southern sun. Above it all—an insignificant speck in the infinite space of air—remote, solitary, but self-assured, and intent in the moment, hunted the swift.

Knowing these birds are capable of soaring on a breath of upwind, and that they may often be heard crying in the summer dusk, high up and

began to blow gently up the hill. As night gave place to the first cold grey, presaging dawn, my little sailplane was catapulted off. As it shot 50 ft. up, I turned parallel with the loom of the long range of hill that showed, beyond the port wing, dark against the sky. The fields below were a dull, intimidating blur. Cautiously I edged along the hill-side, relieved to find the wind strong enough to let the glider easily hold height.

With unexpected rapidity the dark countryside became detailed, as dawn gathered strength. A pale light suffused the eastern sky. Over the edge of the sea a red disc glowed and grew. The water changed: threw off its cloak of tired age, so that the long swell became bronzed scales. I swung the glider round. The trees were no longer black silhouettes but dull green, and the fields showed olive. I glanced around the wakening sky, then up. High, high above, a black arrow flashed past, in the opposite direction. Only when the glider had flown another quarter of a mile did my mind, concentrated on the newly illumined countryside, signal that maybe I had seen a swift.

A swift! Was it a bird which had been soaring over the countryside the whole night long? Was it? Or could it have been one which had left its roosting-place, under the eaves of a grey Purbeck cottage, and had launched into the same pale dawn which had seen my wings? And was it really a swift, I wondered.

THOMAS TOMPION

I.—HIS RISE TO FAME

By R. W. SYMONDS

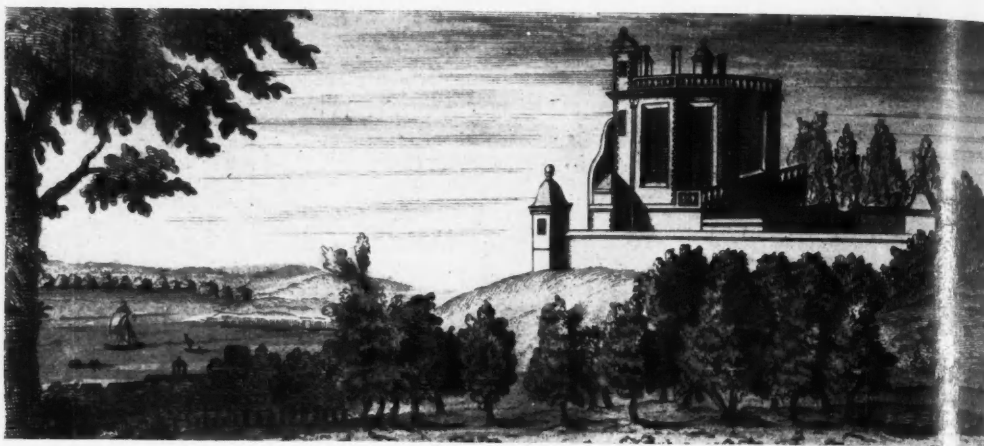
THOMAS SPRAT, in his *History of the Royal Society of London* (1667), wrote:

The late times of *Civil War*, and *confusion*, to make recompense for their infinite calamities, brought this advantage with them, that they stirr'd up mens minds from *long ease*, and a *lazy rest*, and made them *active*, *industrious* and *inquisitive*: it being the usual benefit that follows upon *Tempests*, and *Thunders* in the *State*, as well as in the *Skie*, that they purifie, and cleer the *Air*, which they disturb. . . . Now there is a universal *desire*, and *appetite* after *knowledge*, after the peaceable, the fruitful, the nourishing *Knowledge*.

It was to this "active, industrious and inquisitive" Restoration world, that Thomas Tompion, the watch-clock- and instrument-maker, belonged. Born in 1639 at Northhill in Bedfordshire, he was the elder son of a blacksmith. In 1671 he was admitted as a "Brother" to the Clockmakers' Company; for originally he had taken his freedom in another of the City Companies, probably the Blacksmiths'.

In 1674 evidence exists that he had his shop in Water Lane, which thoroughfare, according to Strype, writing in 1720, was "a good broad and streight Street, which cometh out of *Fleet street*, and runneth down to the Thames, where there is one of the City Lay-stalls, for the Soil of the Street; . . . This Lane is better built than inhabited, by reason of its being so pestered with Carts to the Lay-stall and Wharfs, for Wood, Coals, &c. lying by the Water side, at the bottom of this Lane."

When Tompion was still in his 30s, he became known for his skill as a craftsman; for a few years previous to 1680, he was making instruments, watches and clocks, for several



1.—GREENWICH OBSERVATORY AS BUILT FROM A DESIGN BY WREN
From an 18th-century print in the collection of Mr. C. A. Ilbert

persons eminent in the arts of horology and astronomy. Foremost among these was Robert Hooke, experimental philosopher, architect and curator of experiments to the Royal Society. Hooke's researches into horology produced the two very important inventions—the balance spring for watches and the anchor escapement for pendulum clocks.

The Diary of Robert Hooke (published 1935) contains much evidence of the association between its writer and the craftsman. It commences in August, 1672, but the first mention of Tompion is not until April 20, 1674—in this year Hooke was 38 and Tompion 35—when there occurs the terse entry—"Cald on Thompkins for quadrant." Hooke's acquaintanceship with Tompion appears to have started

over the making of an astronomical quadrant, which the Royal Society had instructed him to design and have made on its behalf. Hence the meaning of the above entry. The *Diary* shows during the next few months that Hooke becomes more and more friendly with Tompion (whose name he begins to spell correctly) and imparts to him his theories and knowledge of horological matters. Also they seek together the congenial atmosphere of the coffee-house where they could both talk and drink.

May 2.—To Thomkin in Water Lane. Much Discourse with him about watches. Told him the way of making an engine for finishing wheels, and a way to make a dividing plate; about the forme of an arch; about another way of Teeth work; about pocket watches and many other things.

May 28.—At Mr. Thomkins about quadrant. He had cast it and soderd brass rim.

June 25.—With Tompion at Coffee house, Salisbury court.

June 27.—At Tompions. Told him at Childs coffee house of new Dividing compasses screw upon a Rule, as

also for making all manner of Spyrals of the poysed watch swimming in water.

July 5.—Receivd home quadrant from Tompion. Sir J. More and Tompion here and at Blacklocks coffee house.

Hooke's important invention of a balance spring for watches was the cause of his meeting Charles II. The *Diary* relates on April 7, 1675, that he was "With the King and shewd him my new spring watch, Sir J. More and Tompion there. The King most graciously pleas'd with it and commended it far beyond Zulichems.* He promised me a patent and commanded me to prosecute the degree. Sir J. More beggd for Tompion." Charles's interest in the watch was due to the urgent problem of that age of finding longitude at sea—hence his command to Hooke "to prosecute the degree."

At this meeting the King must have expressed a wish to have one of the new watches; for afterwards Hooke is busy instructing Tompion about the making of the "Kings Watch." The *Diary* records the various stages in the watch's production, and how sometimes during the collaboration Tompion calls on Hooke at his home at Gresham College, and on one occasion "Tompion here all night." Hooke also becomes impatient—"Severall Disputes with Tompion urgd him forward with watch." "At Tompions, scolded with him." "At Tompions I fell out with him for slownesse."

On July 28 "Thompion shewd watch finisht," but a day or two later the spring becomes loose and this delays the final completion for another three days. Then on August 26 a message comes from Mr. Chiffinch, Charles's trusted servant and closet-keeper, for the watch to be sent to Whitehall. On this day Hooke records in his *Diary*: "I told Mr. Tompion I would not pay him for it but he must expect if [sic] from the King. The Duke of York and Prince Rupert bespoke each of them one." The King's watch was inscribed: Robert Hook inven. 1658. T. Tompion fecit 1675. Later on October 5 Hooke writes: "At Whitehall saw the King in the Gallery he spoke to me in the park that weather had alterd watch," which shows that Hooke's invention, which did not allow for temperature compensation, was still in its infancy.

Sir Jonas Moore (1617-79), whose name was of so frequent occurrence in the *Diary*, was a mathematician, a fellow of the Royal Society, and Surveyor-General of the Ordnance. He was however a friend of the Astronomer Royal, John Flamsteed, rather than of Hooke. During Charles II's reign (1675) the Observatory at Greenwich was set up and Wren ordered Hooke to direct its building. The Rev. John Flamsteed (1646-1719) was appointed to the post of Astronomer Royal. Although he was given

*This personage was Christiaan Huygens (1629-95), the celebrated Dutch astronomer and inventor of the pendulum clock.



2.—THOMAS TOMPION (1639-1713). FROM A PRINT AFTER A PORTRAIT BY GODFREY KNELLER

the Observatory to work in and a house to live in, he was not supplied with instruments. To meet this deficiency, Sir Jonas Moore came to the help of his friend and gave to him two clocks and a sextant. The clocks were made by Tompion and they were not fitted into cases, but were fixed behind the wainscot, the dials alone showing in the room. In the contemporary print of the Observatory room (Fig. 3), three clocks can be seen, but in Flamsteed's letters only two are mentioned and both were inscribed: Sir Jonas Moore caused this Movement with great Care to be thus Made A^o 1676 by Tho. Tompion.

According to Flamsteed's description, "My pendulum clocks were the work of Mr. Tompion: the pendulums, 13 feet long, make each single vibration in two seconds of time; and their weights need only to be drawn up once in twelve months." One of these clocks is now preserved in the British Museum, and its dial is illustrated (Fig. 4); the whereabouts of the other clock, if it should still exist, is unknown. Both clocks, judging by the one in the museum, were designed to have the dial plates covered with dark velvet, which material showed up the delicate hands. This velvet covering of dials was a contemporary Dutch fashion.

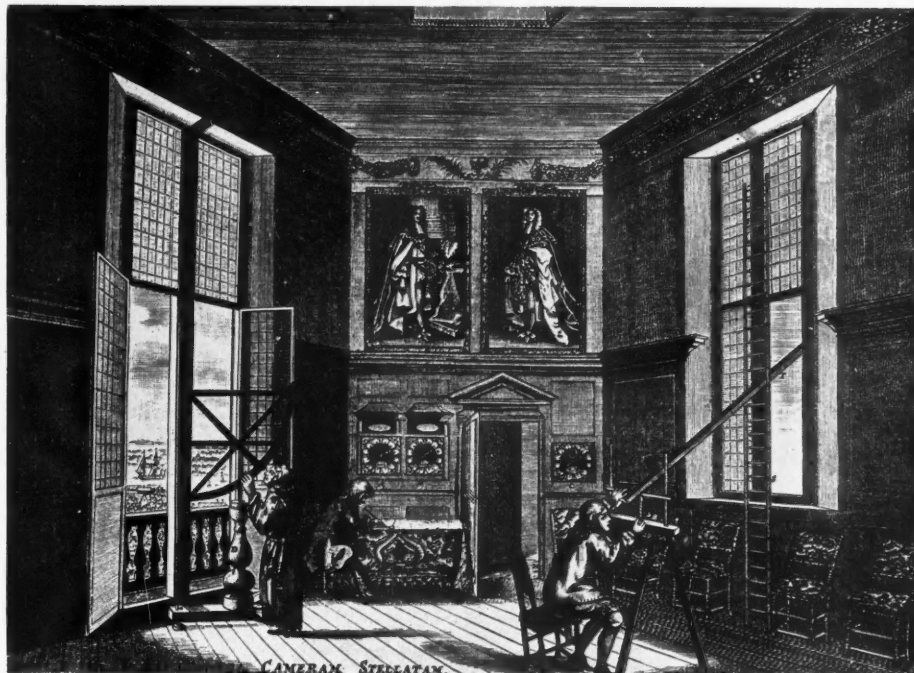
The two clocks when first installed did not keep very good time, judging from the following remarks, quoted from Flamsteed's letters to Sir Jonas Moore:

I would not have you think that, because our clocks go so much worse than we expected, all is out of order: whilst I know their errors they serve very well to give the true times of such observations as I make with your sextant, which is now in excellent order, the limb being curiously divided by the great semicircle; . . . I am not much solicitous about our clocks, since I doubt not but Mr. Tompion's dexterity will put them soon into such order again, as that a little pains of mine in some weeks, may get them into good going order again. I reckon not the time lost since they have gone amiss; nor, were I wealthy, should I value the expense of this trial, since we have learnt by it how small an alteration in the works, without any change in the length of the pendulum, will serve to make it go 11 minutes a day too fast; and that it will not be convenient, if we get them once more into order, ever to alter them afterwards any more than, when they want it, to new clean and oil them. (March 7, 1677-78.)

One of our clocks goes well; the other may be made to do so, if Mr. Tompion, could be prevailed with to come and bestow a little pains upon it. (April 30, 1678.)

I have got our clocks nearer the true mean movement than I had them last year, if I be not deceived. A few weeks will satisfy me; and I hope they will now answer our expectations. (July 16, 1678.)

The chief reason for the clocks being irregular was the changes of temperature to which the movements, "exposed to dust and the open air," must have been subject. The only way Flamsteed could have made them go at a regular rate was by keeping the temperature



3.—THE OBSERVATORY ROOM AT GREENWICH, FROM A 17th-CENTURY PRINT
The dials of the clocks made by Tompion and given to the Astronomer Royal by Sir Jonas Moore are let into the panelling

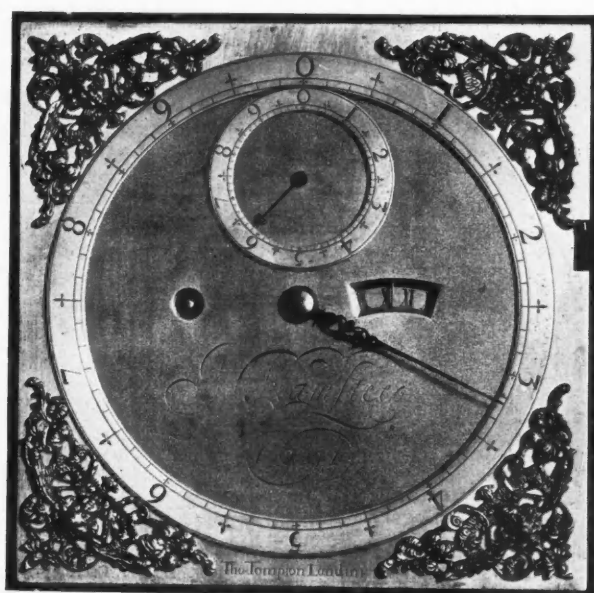
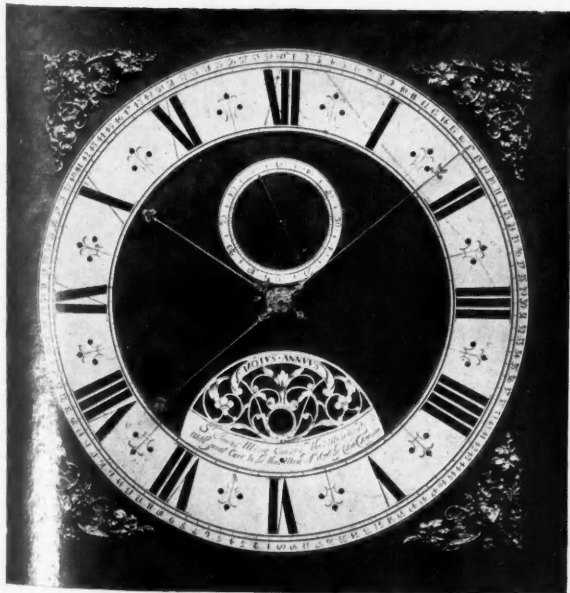
of the room even throughout the year; for in the late seventeenth century a compensated pendulum to allow for changes in temperature had not been thought of.

The interesting and unique clock by Tompion (Fig. 6), with the dial inscribed J. Flamsteed 1691, presents a problem as to its relationship with the "2 great clocks" of Sir Jonas Moore. It has been suggested that it was the third clock to the right of the door in the Observatory Room, and that it was housed later in its long case (Fig. 5). In favour of this view, the movement appears earlier than 1691, and the case with its hood that does not slide up, but has a door, appears later. The movement is very unusual. It goes for two months; the minutes and seconds dials are inscribed for decimal time; and the hours are shown in a slot in the dial. These features suggest an early experimental stage; for it must be remembered that the minute hand had not long become standard in English clocks. The extant clock of Sir Jonas Moore is also unusual in this respect: the dial is marked with 120 minutes and the minute hand therefore travels the dial once in two hours.

On the other hand in the print of the Observatory Room all three clocks have the same size dials, which were 14 to 15 ins. square, judging from the clock in the British Museum; whereas the clock with Flamsteed's name has a 10-in. square dial.

Undoubtedly the reason for the dial having Flamsteed's name is that he wanted to mark it as his own. The son of Sir Jonas Moore, after the latter's death in 1679, contended that his father's gift was not a personal one to the Astronomer Royal; but Flamsteed was able to prove, so he writes, "the instruments to be my own."

Hooke writes in his *Diary* on August 24, 1675: "At Tompions. With him about corner house in Water Lane." Trade was looking up; his friends Robert Hooke and Sir Jonas Moore had made for Tompion many valuable connections from the King downwards. It was now the time to move from his cramped workshop in Water Lane—so one would suspect—to the important corner house at the top of the Lane, where the shop window looked upon Fleet Street—"the great Way from London to Westminster." (To be concluded)



(Left) 4.—THE DIAL OF ONE OF SIR JONAS MOORE'S OBSERVATORY CLOCKS MADE BY TOMPION IN 1676. In the British Museum Collection (Middle and Right) 5 and 6.—A UNIQUE CLOCK BY TOMPION SHOWING DECIMAL TIME. The dial is inscribed "J. Flamsteed, 1691." In the collection of Mr. C. A. Ilbert

CROOKSBURY, SURREY—I

THE HOME OF COMMANDER AND MRS. GINMAN

The first country house built by Sir Edwin Lutyens, in 1890, enlarged in 1898, and partly re-built also from his designs 1914.

By

CHRISTOPHER HUSSEY

EARLY works of famous architects rarely, if ever, foreshadow their subsequent achievements. They learn so much from later experience, even if they are as lucky as Wren to be given a theatre as their first commission, and not, as is the commoner lot, the repair of a cottage or a design for somebody's garage. The picturesque half-timbered little house of Crooksbury, near Farnham, designed by the Lutyens of 1890, when he was only 21, gives no promise of Delhi, Liverpool Cathedral or the Cenotaph.

But that is not the way to look at it. Our feeling that it is the product of another age, almost of another mind, stresses the immense distance that he travelled in 50 years, his quickness to absorb and develop anew. Crooksbury, indeed, is an ideal starting point for a study of Lutyens's architecture precisely because his first house here is so unlike what was to follow, and, further, because in the additions and alterations made by him during 24 succeeding years, we can watch his development taking place. It presents, too, thus early, a peculiarity very characteristic of his buildings, though it is personal rather than architectural: the fact that when extensions were twice required to the original house—the second time by a new owner—there was no question but that he should be called in. The building was felt to be his building, notwithstanding that the fruit of his first essay was by no means an



1.—THE STABLES. THE BELFRY IS DATED 1902

unqualified success judged by his own standards.

Here, then, we can see, all the more clearly because the additions serve as milestones, the way by which Lutyens began. He soon abandoned this pedantic style as he gained self-confidence. But momentarily we see a young man sticking for historical accuracy, laudably in that it came from diffidence and a passion for right craftsmanship, blameably as it suppressed his own creative capacity, as yet untried. A few years later he has so far found his bent as to give his imagination free rein amid the thousand delightful possibilities opening to those so happy as to be young and imaginative in the '90s.

To visualise from what we see the house that he imagined but did not quite achieve, is not made easier by having at the same time to subtract from the existing

picture the large amount added later. To make it more difficult, the addition was re-built later still, so that there are three phases of development photographed as it were upon a single plate. Moreover, there exists an unexecuted design (Fig. 7).

This was exhibited at the Royal Academy of 1890, and shows a much larger house, though the executed design followed the general characters of the project. It is evident that the first scheme had to be scaled down and much simplified to save costs. These factors make Crooksbury extraordinarily interesting to study, but rather complicated to describe.

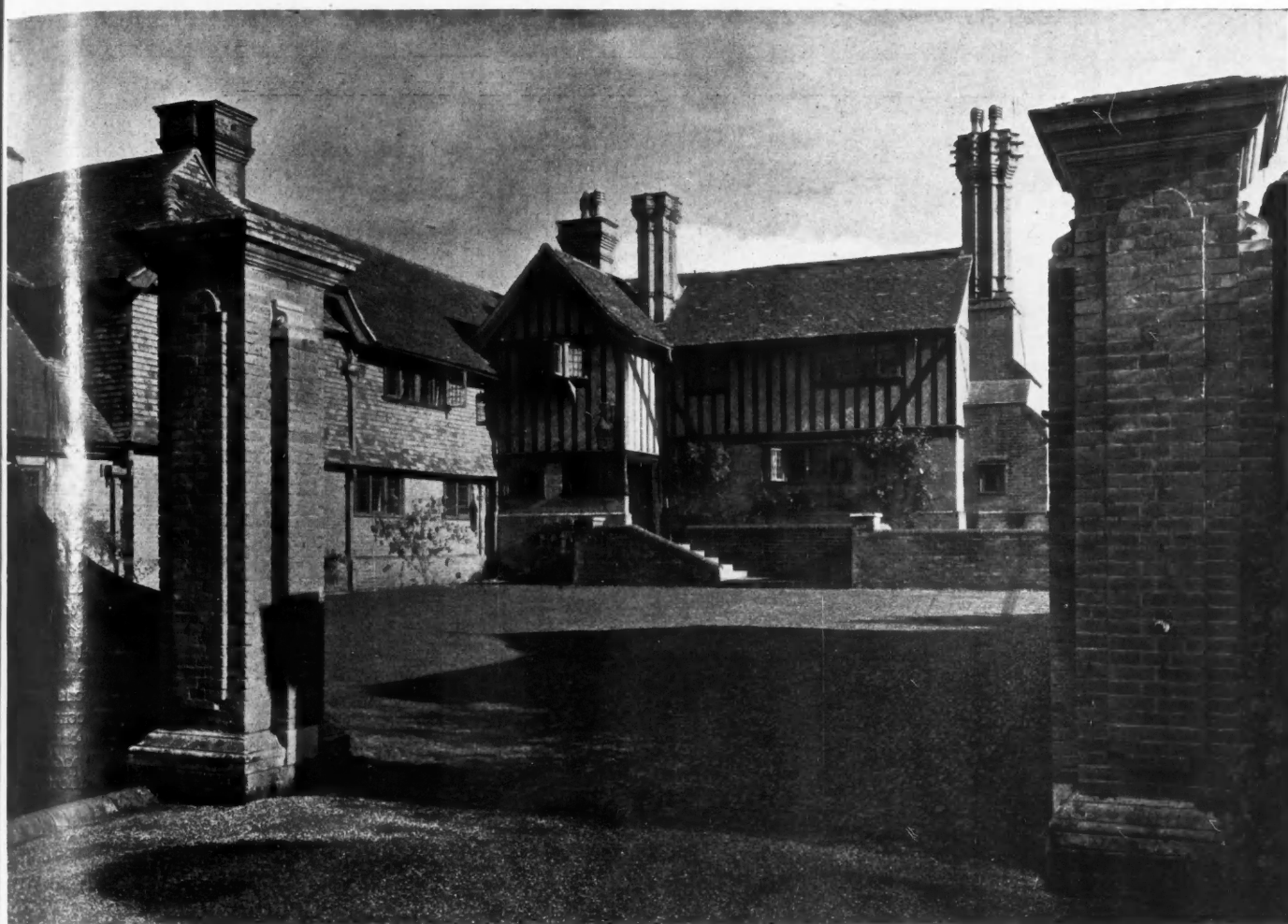
The original building is that framed in Fig. 3 by the gate-piers built 10 years later, namely the timber-framed brick range, consisting of the porch and living-rooms, and the projecting tile-hung range on the left containing kitchen and offices. On the garden side (Fig. 4) this part comprises the two gables and the roof with dormers buttressed by the Tudor chimney-stack on the left.

This, his first country-house commission, is manifestly composed of closely observed bits of ancient farm-houses and cottages that he had noted on his explorings of old West Surrey: seen, perhaps, from Miss Jekyll's pony-trap in the lanes about Godalming, or sketched with soap through the celebrated pane of glass always kept in his pocket for that purpose. Such features as the porch (entered from the side, with a baluster-barred aperture opposite the doorway), and the massive base of the chimney-stack (containing a deep ingle nook) are just the homely, rustic things that were then coming increasingly into vogue with the cult of the country cottage.

About 1880 people had begun to realise, as Norman Shaw put it, that the Gothic revival had all been to no purpose and was quite unsuited to the present day. The new tendency was to return to the English renaissance *via* Holland and Pont Street. Shaw himself made his reputation in the process, and at Pierrepont, near Farnham (1876) built a timbered Tudor masterpiece that the young Lutyens must have often



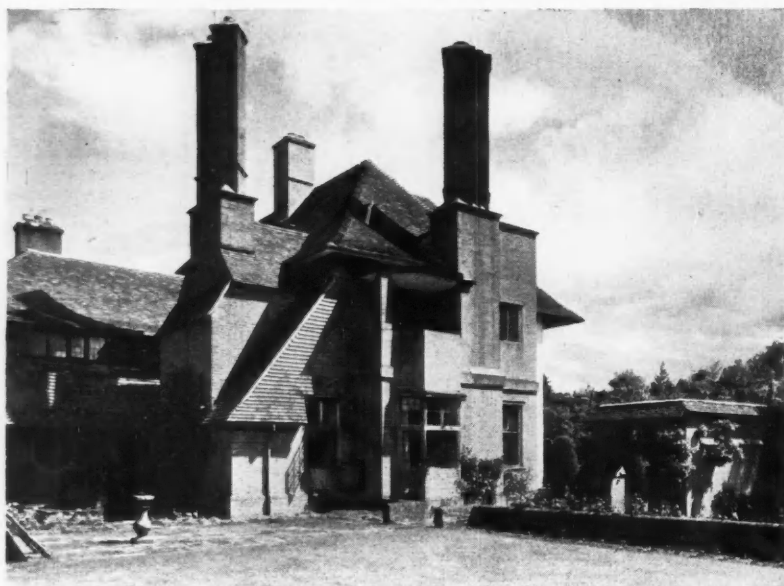
2.—THE FORECOURT AND APPROACH, FROM THE TERRACE



3.—SIR EDWIN LUTYENS'S FIRST COUNTRY HOUSE, BUILT IN 1890 WHEN HE WAS 21
The entrance front, between piers added in 1898



4.—THE SOUTH SIDE. The block to the right was added in 1898 and altered in 1914



5.—SOUTH END OF THE 1898 ADDITION
The tall chimney-stack on the left was added in 1914



6.—THE FIG COURT, 1900
Showing the junction between the two buildings before the 1914 alterations



7.—A FIRST, UNEXECUTED, DESIGN FOR CROOKSBURY
(From *The Builder*, October 18, 1890)

seen. Crooksbury probably owed something to Pierrepont, but more to the influence and example of Philip Webb. Sir Edwin told me that Webb was his inspiration in his youth, and a direct connection is to be seen in some of his early works. What he meant, however, was rather Webb's (and Morris's) emphasis on craftsmanship and right handling of materials, sensitiveness of texture and mouldings. It was that that had sent him to work in Tickner the Thursley builder's yard, to learn how to *build* the enchanting shapes to which Randolph Caldecott, the Lutyenses' neighbour at Thursley, had opened his eyes by his drawings of the traditional countryside.

These, then, were some of the factors shaping his visual picture of the "cottage" at Crooksbury for Mr. A. W. Chapman. But either money, or materials, besides experience were lacking. The timber used throughout, though of good massive scantlings, is fir stained with dark preservative (originally much of it was painted white). And the ordinary smooth-faced red bricks, so much thicker than those ever used for mediæval nogging, produce a clumsy effect, being too large for the correctly scaled timber-work. The aim may have been to create an elfin, fairy-tale house, as Mr. Baillie Scott and Messrs. Imrie and Angell long afterwards succeeded in doing; but unsuitable materials, lack of experience in using them, and too faithful adherence to period detail defeated it; the result is an early example of what has come to be regarded as typical "Surrey traditional," remarkable only for being the work of a young man of 21. But how quickly Lutyens learnt from these experiences is shown by comparing Crooksbury with Munsted Wood, built five years later for Miss Jekyll, in which all the mistakes made here were overcome and the Hans Andersen effect was consummately achieved.

The site of Crooksbury is certainly an inspiration to the picturesque. Just to the north of it rises Crooksbury Hill with its (now sadly thin) mop of firs: the mountain of the neighbourhood, so that, according to George Sturt, when Farnham children would give an idea of infinite height, they would say "higher than Crooksbury Hill." Eastward a fir-clad ridge curves round the site, and southwards the ground falls steeply to the wooded valley of the Wey with a view of sudden immensity south-west towards Selborne. Till the house was built it was all Scotch firs and heather, and heather is still the natural growth. In the clearing made, the house was set on a terraced platform cresting the ridge. This original terrace is seen in front of the house in Figs. 3 and 4, and came round to form a forecourt with a gazebo, seen on the left of Fig. 2, at its corner. The forecourt itself was, and is still, pitched with ironstone in the local tradition.

In 1898 it was decided to double the size of the house, and, as was to be the method adopted again in the better-known cases of Folly Farm and Lambay, to do so in a wholly different style. It is notable to find the original design, even of his earliest work, conceived so much as a complete thing in itself that any considerable enlargement must require a fresh start. It was certainly true in this case: the weather-tiled and timbered cottage could not be extended indefinitely. But architect certainly, and probably client also, desired the addition to be on an altogether more spacious scale, the one perhaps to exercise his developing interest in "renaissance," the other to obtain larger and lighter rooms. The new wing was set 35 ft. away from the earlier building, to which it was connected by a long neck carrying a double tier of corridors, the upper half hung with tiles, the lower having large round windows beneath the overhang of the tiling. The junction was effected where a little tower-like projection from the original house held conveniences opening off its staircase, but the differences in ground level and in the height of the rooms involved the inconvenience of steps to overcome them. In 1914 the front of this new wing was entirely reconstructed, the massive chimney-breast seen in Fig. 5 was built against its west corner, and the pent-house beside it added. The main visual link between old and new must have been the bow with a first-floor veranda from which a lady is seen leaning in Fig. 6. Since then the oak balustrade and metal supports have been removed in favour of plain brickwork, and a window inserted below it. Also the pergola, which helped to mask the



8.—FORECOURT PIER AND WALL. 1898

junction and gave the space between the two buildings the name of the Fig Court, has been taken down: no great loss in itself, but exposing the transition.

The 1898 alterations further transformed the original character of Crooksbury by superposing an ambitious formal lay-out: high walls and clipped yew hedges enclosed a lawn eastwards from the new front, linking it to the north with a considerable range of new stables (Fig. 1), and went on to make a forecourt of some pretensions to the modest original front (Fig. 2). This idea was shortly afterwards developed at Grey Walls, Gullane (1901), with excellent effect. The walls are extraordinarily elaborate affairs (Fig. 8), of lavish craftsmanship with their tiled overhanging roofs, curving ramps of tiles on edge, their insets and offsets. They are highly effective round the walled lawn as background to clipped yews and hollies, fruit trees and climbing roses—essential parts of a richly textured whole that has only since filled out. But where they come round to the forecourt their artistry seems now rather overdone and not too happy in relation to the beauty and dignity of the Hampton Court piers which terminate them and flank the way through the stable court into the forecourt. These piers, foreshadowing 40 years' increasing skill in this *genre*, are notable also for a fine brick of suitable size ($1\frac{3}{4}$ ins. thick) having at length been obtained. Had this been

available for the original building, the gem-like effect aimed at might have been achieved, though the quaint half-timbered front would always have looked odd in relation to the subsequent enlargements.

The stables, lying parallel to and east of the approach, to which they are connected at right angles, are seen between groups of cherry trees in the outer court enclosed by the walls starting from the two ends of the range. The date 1902 occurs on the belfry, denoting the conclusion of the work begun in 1898. From the front of the stables two canted wings project containing living accommodation, and seen through the arch is a detached building containing the saddle-room with a curved centre in which is a delightful baroque doorway surmounted by a dormer window. The whole, even more markedly than the east wing, evinced the ease and suppleness with which Lutyens was ready to handle traditional renaissance design and not only his grasp of the medium but his capacity to work endless variations in it. The thin brick was further used for all the chimneys of the 1898 buildings and for the rubbed work, giving the quality and finish missing in that of 1890.

In 1914 the thin neck linking the two parts of the house was thickened to give additional servants' accommodation and bathrooms, and to facilitate service, forming a narrow court between them and the original



9.—IN THE KITCHEN GARDEN

neck. These additions are seen in the background of Fig. 11, which illustrates a delightful and very Lutyensy feature—archways coupled on an oval base. The arches lead now only from stable court to back yard, but may have been more prominent originally before the 1914 alterations.

The kitchen garden lies at some distance southwards from the house, near the foot of the slope. The tool-shed or gazebo at the corners and the roofed archways (Fig. 9) are early instances of his inventiveness in garden architecture which culminated at Delhi and Tyringham and was yielding a wealth of picturesque detail in the opening years of the century at Orchards, Goddards, and Marsh Court, of which the pergola (Fig. 10) is typical. This was built about 1900 in conjunction with the forecourt walls and, indeed, in the use made of tile for the piers, providing the source for the use of tiles for the coping of the wall's ramps elsewhere. The relationship of the pergola to the house is seen in Fig. 4. The ingenious handling of the tiles to give texture and suggest capitals, the manner of their bonding in with the brickwork, and the curvature of the diagonal beams, yet all without over-emphasis, illustrate on a simple plane two of Lutyens's most marked characteristics, his fastidious inventiveness and his sensitiveness to the texture and forms appropriate to materials.

(To be concluded.)



10.—PERGOLA BELOW THE SOUTH TERRACE (See Fig. 4)



11.—ARCHES AT THE BACK ENTRANCE

BRITAIN'S BAMBOO HARVEST

By LAUREL PASCAL

ALL round Britain a strange harvest is being gathered in—the harvest of bamboo canes, known in Burma by the descriptive name of elephant grass. Before the war, the growing of bamboo canes for commercial use was almost entirely restricted to Cornwall, but, through the drying up of supplies from China and Japan, the British-grown cane has become of front-line importance. Although one of the largest groves in the West Country produces, every three years, upwards of three-quarters of a million canes, these are sufficient to meet only a mere fraction of the home demand. In an effort to supply at least the most urgent needs of gardeners and nurserymen, bamboo groves all over Britain are being cut, and the stout English canes are being rushed on to the market.

In appearance our home-grown canes cannot compare with the mellow golden Tonkin cane of China, but growers claim that, as far as strength and durability are concerned, the British cane is every bit as good as the best Chinese varieties. And strength is the main reason why bamboo canes are indispensable



ELEPHANT GRASS HARVEST IN SUSSEX—NOT BURMA !

Each cane has to be cut separately—a big job in a bamboo grove of about 30,000 canes



A BUNDLE OF A HUNDRED CANES BEING CARRIED OUT OF THE GROVE FOR STACKING AND, LATER, TRANSPORT TO THE BUNDLING SHED

for the support of heavy fruiting crops.

The growers and dealers have a wide territory to cover in their search for bamboo groves, for the tropical elephant grass grows freely all over the country, including the North of Scotland, where some of the finest canes are produced. To help locate the groves, the services of the local War Agricultural Committees are enlisted, supported by advertisements in the rural Press.

The owners of hitherto uncommercial groves have no difficulty over harvesting and selling their exotic crops. The cane dealers (usually also growers) will travel to any part of Britain and buy the whole grove outright.

A bamboo cane reaches its maximum length in a year—usually about 15 ft. but sometimes over 20 ft.—but takes three years to mature. A good grove may yield 30,000 canes and as each cane has to be cut separately there is a lot of labour involved. A good cutter gets through about 1,500 canes a day, but where the going is good—no weeds or stinging nettles—considerably greater numbers can be cut.

The bamboo-cutter is a pear-shaped tool with a 4-in. razor-sharp blade, extremely strong and flexible. Even then, some canes are so tough that several blades may be broken in one grove.

Bamboo canes thrive in damp shady places, and on many large estates the bamboo grove is a decorative feature of the water garden. For the cutters this means working most of the time with wet feet, since only heavy leather boots are practical—the sharp butts of the cut canes would tear rubbers to tatters in a short time.

As soon as the canes are cut, they are tied into bundles of 100 and stacked ready for transport to the nearest bundling shed. This is usually a farm building rented by the dealer, for preparing the canes for sale to the trade.

In the bundling shed—or out in the open when the weather is fine—the fronds are stripped off and the canes are carefully graded for quality and diameter. Next they are sawn into lengths, varying from 1 ft. to 15 ft. and listed as



(Left) STACKING CANES AT THE EDGE OF THE ROAD

(Right) STRIPPING CANES OF THEIR FOLIAGE—A MONOTONOUS JOB AFTER THE FIRST FEW HUNDRED





(Left) SORTING AND SAWING CANES INTO LENGTHS FROM 1 FT. UP TO 15 FT.



(Right) THE FOOT-PEDAL TIGHTENS COILS OF ROPE ROUND THE CANES

either thin, medium, stout or extra stout; the price increases with the diameter of the cane. Few canes are less than $\frac{1}{2}$ in. in diameter or more than 2 ins.

The bundles of 100 carefully graded canes are tied on a special bundling machine—an ingenious rack with a strong foot-pedal which tightens coils of rope round the end of the bundle. When the canes are held together as tightly as possible stout twine is substituted for the rope at either end—and the bundle is ready.

The bamboo flowers only once in 50 years or so, and in China there is a legend to the effect that this occurrence augurs some great national disaster. One explanation is that when the bamboo flowers fall to the ground they make good feeding for rats, which prosper and multiply and prey in turn on the rice crop, causing large-scale famine in the land. Nevertheless the superstitious may be interested to know that the commonest type of bamboo—the *Arundinaria japonica*—flowered in all parts of Britain in 1939.

Bamboo tips, as the Chinese have appreciated for hundreds of years, make a delicious food. The young tips are green and tender and look rather like asparagus and should be cooked in the same way—tied in bundles and boiled in salted water. If you know anyone with a bamboo grove, try a dish of bamboo tips for supper—but make sure they are the right kind—the *palmata*—and do not forget to serve them with a generous portion of your butter ration!

PHEASANTS OF THE MARCHES

THE war is teaching us a lot of things. What we can do without and scarcely miss is one of them. We are recognising, for example, what very likely most of us have always known at bottom, that shooting luxury is not essential to enjoyment, that satiation rather than satisfaction may be the outcome of big bags, and that the impromptu drive, in virtue of the surprises it affords, may often be better fun than that which is meticulously planned and executed with an almost mathematical precision.

For aught I know, conditions on big properties, allowing for restrictions on their output, may not be greatly changed. But the vast majority of shoots, either partially or wholly without the benefit of keepers, are carrying on as best they can. That is another way of saying that we are staging no "set pieces." We cannot get sufficient cartridges for them anyway. We take a day off or an hour off now and then, trusting that our neighbours can do likewise. And pressing half a dozen schoolboys and village ancients into something like a beating line we go out chasing whatever there may be about and hoping for the best.

Sometimes, watching a young cock pheasant restlessly shifting about the covert's edge, I have wondered what is passing in his mind. Does the whistle which sets the beaters moving carry a more sinister note than the friendly pipe to the feed basket?

I think it is even as "he stops and looks and listens," and then dives for a convenient hide, that the latent instinct that his very first flight may prove to be his last is born. And with it, too, the Oriental cunning of his race. For let him sail through the barrage once or twice and he will be up to all the self-preservation dodges of which his elder brethren are past masters.

You may recollect how the pheasant in Fortescue's *Story of a Red Deer* answered the stag's enquiry why he was so far from home. "The act is," said the pheasant, "I didn't like the look of things this morning. Some men came round very early while we were feeding to drive

us back into the wood. Those stupid Chinese birds flew back all right, but I have not lived all these years for nothing, and I flew up the valley and have been running ever since."

As he spoke there was an echo of two faint reports, a sound strange to the stag. "Those are the guns," went on the old bird, "beating my wood. To-morrow they will be there again, but the next day I shall return." And he ran under a bramble bush on to a heap of foliage, so that you could hardly tell his neck from the live leaves or his body from the dead.

At any rate, that typifies the cock's resource, of which you may get plenty of experience on the hillsides of the Welsh marches. Here at least there is no likelihood of being mobbed by birds *en masse*, or of collecting bags with mathematical precision. This hillside shooting is no cut-and-dried affair. It might be more aptly described as catch-as-catch-can, when one is dealing with pheasants which are skyscrapers in one moment and nearly knock one's hat off in the next as they nose-dive down a gradient of one in four at 60 miles an hour.

Moreover, seldom is the shooter standing level on his feet. Mostly these hillsides offer stances which increase the odds against him while detracting from his grace, and thereby afford the local rustics ample scope for indulging in good-humoured witticisms at his expense. Still, that is at once the fun and vexation of this rough-and-tumble shooting.

Lest you think that I exaggerate, let me take you to some quite small coverts and reconstruct a solitary "day off" which I snatched a year ago. Imagine a hanging wood of 20 acres of spruce, some old, some young, with mixed thorn and bramble on the high ground, and birch and mountain ash towards the covert's edge. It lies on the western slope of a valley, bounded to the north and south by fields of roots and coarse grass, which are blanked in before the shooting begins. Two guns were stationed along a central ride and the other four in the valley, so that virtually only the northern salient was left unguarded save by stops. The

beat began with a host of pigeons coming off the high tops to pass the lower guns several hundred feet too high for execution, while the pheasants, like Brer Rabbit, still lay low. And then the fun began, for many of the wilier cocks had ventured out of covert to feed in the early afternoon, and the first few shots at pigeons were all sufficient to make them squat and run still farther out into the grass.

But the keeper, to whom we praise, knew a trick worth two of that. He halted the line, detached half the beaters and three spaniels to fetch back the grass and roots towards the covert. Then the whole line moved crescent-wise towards the valley, and the outlying pheasants, having already heard firing inside the wood, decided that the opposite direction was the right one. They rose, determined to put 500 yds. between themselves and the concealed batteries in the ride, and sailed across the valley guns instead at a height to test the experts, while their brethren, breaking away from the barrage of the forward line, gave precisely similar shooting to the guns along the central ride.

It was as pretty a show of two cross streams of high pheasants as I can recollect, and although there were fewer than 50 birds all told, I have had much less fun at shoots which showed ten times that number. There was an ancient warrior, for instance, typical of many, to whom I award the palm for low cunning. He rose 200 yds. away and, ignoring two barrels from the central ride, he came high and ever higher towards the valley guns. As number one sped him farther on his way, he liked not the look of number two. So he nose-dived slightly slantwise and, gliding on stiff wings at an oblique angle and 35 yds. up, he ran the entire gauntlet of eight barrels and got away with it.

That to my mind is typical of sport at its best. Heretic I may be, but I set little store by bags. The charm of shooting lies more in what one sees than what one kills, in the uncertainty as to what is coming over next, and in the absence of cast-iron rules of procedure.

J. B. DROUGHT.

THE GARDEN IN AUTUMN

THOSE who contend that the garden scene is dull and lacking in colour after the first frosts have rung down the curtain on the Autumn festival of hardy flowers can surely have little or no acquaintance with all those many ornamental trees and shrubs that have reached us from the borderlands of China and Tibet during the present century and possess the virtue of either glorious leaf colour or gaily coloured fruits. Here is a wealth of material which, if adequately exploited, will not only ensure a brilliant ending to the garden round, but will bring beauty and distinction as well as interest to any garden during the Autumn and the early part of the Winter.

It is no exaggeration to say that the barberry, as the *Berberis* is properly called, has probably done more than any other race to bring home the value and significance of berried shrubs in the Autumn garden landscape. Nearly every member of the genus has claims to recognition. Even the common *B. vulgaris*, with its pendulous clusters of sausage-shaped coral red fruits, though it falls short of the beauty of some of its Asiatic cousins, is not without merit. Among the representatives of the race from China and its borderlands, it is not a difficult matter to pick out half a dozen first-class berrying shrubs, and the one named in honour of Mrs. Wilson (*B. Wilsonae*), whose bright coral pink



ONE OF THE MOST ORNAMENTAL MEMBERS OF THE CRAB APPLE FAMILY—PYRUS JOHN DOWNIE WITH PEAR-SHAPED FRUITS OF YELLOW AND RED



A FRUITING SPRAY OF THE HANDSOME *VIBURNUM RHYTIDOPHYLLUM*, WHOSE BERRIES CHANGE FROM A BRIGHT RED TO A SHINING BLACK

berries are now thickly clustering the elegantly arching branches, should come first in any selection, as few are more attractive or more dependable. Its close cousins *B. stapfiana* and *B. subcaulialata*, the berries of which ripen a little later, as well as the many named forms that have sprung from them, are hardly less beautiful. Of these named kinds, Unique, Comet and Buccaneer are first class and worthy of a place anywhere. The same can be said of many other red-fruited species such as *BB. polyantha*, *aggrigata*, *yunnanensis* and *virescens* which will all give a good account of themselves in any ordinary garden soil and provide a fine display when massed in generous clumps in a border or in open woodland places.

In common with the barberries, the Cotoneasters are equally rich in fruiting shrubs, and of these there is perhaps none more magnificent than the fine hybrid named *C. Watereri*, which always presents an arresting sight at this time when its long arching branches are adorned with masses of red berries. Its two close allies called *St. Monica* and *Cornubia* are equally fine and the same is true of their relative *C. frigida* and its variety *Vicarii*, which is better than the type. All these are handsome shrubs for autumnal effect, and those in search of material for screening purposes can hardly do better than choose one or two of them.

Others in the front rank of the race for Autumn beauty that no gardener with the room to spare should overlook are *C. Wardii*, which makes an elegant bush laden with bright fruits of sealing-wax red, *C. bullata*,

whose red berries unfortunately too often prove an irresistible delicacy for the birds, the red-berried *C. salicifolia*, *C. Franchetii*, the upright-growing *C. Simonsii* (an excellent plant for a hedge) and the fairly recent newcomers, *C. lactea* and *C. serotina*, both of which retain their red berries until well into the New Year and make a most picturesque scene in the garden landscape through the darkest days.

There are, besides these taller growers, all the dwarf members of the race, and of these there are few better than the well-known *C. horizontalis*, whose flat sail-like branches are closely jewelled with small bright red berries, which gain in brilliance as the cochineal-red leaves begin to drop. For covering a bank, furnishing a low wall, draping a boulder in the rock garden or planting by the edge of stream or path this is an ideal shrub combining beauty and architectural form. For much the same situations, the more recent introduction called *C. conspicua* is also first class, and in fruit it is even more handsome than its older cousin.

The brilliant effects seen on many a house wall during the last few weeks have been sufficient testimony to the virtues of the firethorn, *Pyracantha Lalandei*, as a fruiting shrub. Few shrubs compare with this in berried beauty, and it is even more effective when grown as a bush in the open border than when trained against a wall, where the effect is often not too happy with the clash of bright orange red fruits against red brick. *Lalandei* is not the only species worth growing.



A DECORATIVE BRANCH OF THE WHITE-FRUITED SNOWBERRY

P. atalantioides, whose orange crimson berries do not appear to be so tasteful to the birds as those of *Lalandei*, and the orange-red berried *P. Rogersiana* are both excellent fruiting evergreens which give a fine display massed in groups of three in a border, and to brighten the effect the yellow-berried *P. augustifolia* should also be introduced. The last-named also makes an admirable host to a claret vine or a clematis, and the association will form a charming picture on any wall.

Where it has a background of some dark evergreens like yew or holly, the Snowberry (*Symphoricarpos racemosus*) with its dangling clusters of glistening snow-white berries always presents an attractive picture, and the same can be said of that uncommon white-fruited New Zealand *Hymenanthera crassifolia*. Also with berries as white as well as in shades of pink and crimson come the Davies' hybrid forms of the Prickly Heath, *Pernettya mucronata*, an attrac-

tive dwarf bushy shrub which forms an admirable ground cover in any soil which suits rhododendrons. The same soil conditions suit the Gaultherias, among which the bright blue-berried *G. Veitchiana* and *G. Forrestii* with berries of turquoise blue are two of the most desirable. With fruits in much the same shade comes *Clerodendron trichotomum*, a shrub for the connoisseur. This can also be said of *Callicarpa Giraldisiana*, which always takes the eye in the Autumn when adorned with its berries of shining violet blue.

The wild roses, led by the incomparable



The Prickly Heath, *Pernettya mucronata*, an attractive low-growing shrub for Autumn effect which provides good ground cover in lime-free soils

(Left) One of the best of berrying shrubs, *Pyracantha atalantioides*, notably ornamental both in flower and fruit

(Right) The Guelder Rose, *Viburnum Opulus*, Notcutt's variety, which carries a profusion of bright translucent red berries

R. Moyesii and *R. Fargesii* and their descendants, provide a host of first-class fruiting bushes. To these can be added the Stranvaesias and the Viburnums, among which our native Guelder rose *V. Opulus* represented by Notcutt's variety, *V. betulifolium* and *V. theiferum* are in the very front rank, as well as the Spindle-woods (*Euonymus*), whose bright orange seeds are enclosed in coats of red and pink, making a most striking and lovely combination.

For fruiting trees, the prospective planter need look no further than the *Pyrus* family, which includes in its ranks all the crab apples like John Downie with its pear-shaped fruits of orange washed with red, *Pyrus Eleyi*, *purpurea* and *Lemoinei*, the white beams and the mountain ashes, among which *Sorbus Vilmorinii*, *Wilsoniana*, *Hupensis*, *Scalaris*, *Conradinae* and its yellow-berried form are some of the most beautiful of ornamental fruiting trees in the Autumn garden landscape. G. C. TAYLOR.



A PITCH AND A PUTT — A Golf Commentary by BERNARD DARWIN

READING the other day the pages in a well-known book of reference devoted to miscellaneous and remarkable achievements I came across one which I had not noticed before. This was the duly authenticated feat of a gentleman playing on a Liverpool course who in the course of a round took no more than 21 putts, one putt on each of 15 greens and the orthodox two apiece on the other three greens. It is certainly astonishing enough as it stands and yet, as is so often the case, there are some further questions to which I should much like to know the answer. Was that player habitually reaching the greens in the right number of shots? If so his total score for the round must surely have been in the 60s and he must have been holing a lot of really long putts. Was he, on the other hand, playing his longer approaches not very accurately, so that he was constantly left with a short chip which he as constantly laid dead or nearly dead? I incline to the latter belief and if I am right I admire and envy him much the more. To hole a number of long putts is a freak, outside the bounds of any reasonable probability; a very delightful one but obviously one seldom or never to be repeated. On the other hand, to lay a series of chips by the hole side, though very difficult, is in no way impossible; however vaulting the ambition, it is not an unattainable one.

I have been envying that gentleman the more because on the one or two occasions when I have lately played a little mild golf I have found it more than ever necessary, in an oft-quoted phrase of Mr. Laidlay's, to "trust to a pitch and a putt." I must add, moreover, that my trust has been sadly misplaced. There is, and indeed ought to be, no help for it, I know, and this is not a lament but a mere statement of fact. The increasing need for the pitch and the putt in order to do the hole in the right number of strokes is eminently daunting. In the ordinary way when that need arises from

an imperfect tee shot or a crooked second it is all in the day's work. What is hard is for the player to see a hole stretching away in front of him, a hole which ought to be done in four, and to know that his best two shots will still leave him short and that only the pitch and the putt will get him "the figure." As driving grows shorter and courses longer this state of things grows commoner and the looking forward to a whole series of chips, that *won't* go dead, or of ensuing putts that *won't* go in, inspires, save in the most buoyant, a feeling of hopelessness.

At this juncture the reader may want to break in. I can picture him, a person of robust intellect and hard common-sense, bursting to interrupt. What he wants to say is that this is all vanity, and that if the player can no longer reach the greens in the proper number of strokes, he must set himself a humbler standard and regard the holes as fives instead of fours. I appreciate his point, but I don't think he has wholly grasped mine. A hole may be interesting as a two-shot hole and dull, even very dull, as a two-and-a-bit hole. Of the really good two-shotters this is not true. I don't think that, however short one may get, one will find most of the St. Andrews holes dull, because the third shot (call it pitch or chip or what you will) will be entertaining for its own sake; it will be decidedly need playing; there will be something to be done besides merely hitting the ball. But on too many courses that chip or pitch calls for no subtlety or enterprise; it is just a straightforward commonplace stroke to be put as near the hole as possible, and the fact that we may not be good enough to put it near does not make it interesting.

As to aiming at a lower standard, that may be good discipline for the soul and may possibly make the player more contented. It may also perhaps make him play better. I have told before, I know, the story of a friend at Hoylake who had a liberal handicap but could never do

himself justice on a medal day. Mr. John Ball therefore made out a score for him, hole by hole, at which he was to aim, never allowing his ambition to o'erleap itself. The score looked but a poor thing on paper, but my friend stuck to it religiously, never attempting to do more when sometimes it seemed easily within his grasp. Only at the home hole after a good tee shot did he cut loose, go for the carry over the cross-bunker and end with a glorious four instead of the prescribed five. And he won the handicap medal.

I narrate that story as it tells against my argument, and yet I do not think it wholly meets my point. A better way to avoid that eternal striving after boiling three shots down into two, is to play, if there be any choice, from the shorter tees, whether the ladies', or any other which may offer a little respite. Of course I am only talking of a gentle, friendly game and in that it is far better fun to get home in two from a forward tee than to struggle vainly from a back one. Unfortunately, as has often been pointed out, there are in this country comparatively few courses which have the different sets of tees which are regularly found in America. The blue and yellow boxes which are or were at Addington make one commendable exception, but generally speaking we suffer as a race from a foolish pride (I do not claim myself to be exempt) and if ever "tiger tees" are set out for the long drivers the oldest and shortest seem to make it a point of honour to drive from them. If I can get my companion to agree I intend, especially with the winter coming on, to pocket my pride in the future.

And now enough of the feeble and the senile and let me end with the strong and the great. Who are the eminent players who have been able most consistently to trust to a pitch and a putt? Mr. Laidlay, who gave us the phrase, was second to none in putting into action the principle. There was something

stealthy and demoniacal in the way he did it. Then Mr. Hilton was unquestionably hard to beat at that game. When he first and surprisingly won the Open Championship on the then rather new and raw Muirfield in 1892, rumour, running across the links, declared him to be holding chips "all over the place." In fact I believe he only holed one outright, but he laid a number very close to the hole, and that was a thing he was always likely to do. Mr. Sidney Fry is another among the amateurs who comes to mind, a master of the pitch and run, with that right-hand push of his.

Among more modern amateurs I would unhesitatingly take Mr. Wethered first when the chip has to be played over any form of hazard and when there is but little room "to come and go on." That is because he can

put such an extraordinary amount of bite on the shot. When there is plenty of room I might prefer someone who plays a more rolling type of stroke, but when the ball has to be stopped quickly he would be the man for my money.

Among professionals it is harder to choose because they all chip so well, perhaps from early education with one old iron or haply their masters' at the miniature holes round the caddies' shed. It is scarcely possible to name one better than the rest whether among our own professionals or among the Americans, who have clearly studied the shot. But if I have to choose a single champion then I think it must be Walter Hagen. There was no kind of shot from the outskirts of the green that he could not play with wonderful deftness and accuracy and also

with wonderful confidence. More than any other man he looked as if he thought he were going to lay the chip dead and stone dead at that, and his trust was certainly not misplaced. I wonder if, the next time I go out to the course and find myself regularly short of the green in two, it would do any good if I played at a little game of pretending to be Hagen. I am sorely afraid that my power of make-believe is not equal to the strain.

P.S.—Since writing this article I received a letter from an old friend who says he once had only 19 putts in a round, played against, of all men in the world, the late Walter Travis. He confirms my belief by adding that his long approaches were regularly crooked. It was the chips that did it, for he holed some of them.

CORRESPONDENCE

A KINGFISHER INDOORS

SIR,—Is it not a very extraordinary thing for a kingfisher to come into a house? Yesterday my sister called to us that there was a blue bird with a long beak sitting on a mat in the hall. We laughed at her, but when it flew upstairs and perched on the picture-rail in my bedroom we saw that it was a kingfisher. We think it was full-grown, and certainly with quite beautiful plumage. My niece caught it, and we carried it to a stream, put it down, and stood back, and it flew away. It did not seem to be injured or weak.

Our house and walled garden are in the middle of a small town, and though there are many streams around here, there is no water in our garden. Kingfishers are very shy, and I believe rarely leave the river by which they live. I think some bird-lovers may be interested in this strange visit.—EVELYN RAWLENCE, *The Old Rectory, Wilton, Salisbury.*

SPEED OF SNAKES

SIR,—During the 10 years I lived at Tungsong, S. Siam, I encountered about a dozen hamadryads in and around my compound, varying in length from 9 to 13 ft.

On two occasions I shot them, using a 12-bore gun, No. 5 shot, while they were escaping at full speed across a wide and level expanse of lawn. Owing to the grass being short they were unable to obtain much purchase and their path of retreat was widely "serpentine." As far as I can judge the speed attained was not more than five or six miles an hour, but I think in high stiff grass that would be considerably exceeded.

I might add that it appeared useless to fire at the coils. The only thing that would bring them up short was a shot through the spine immediately behind the head.

Many of the smaller species would disappear into the bush very rapidly apparently, but I don't think that they exceeded six miles an hour for the few yards one could trace them.—R. S. BRETON, *Crossbank, Niton, I.W.*

THE STANDARD-WINGED NIGHTJAR

SIR,—As regards the speed of snakes mentioned in a recent letter, I used to see black mambas frequently in Katanga, Belgian Congo, and they always went off at a leisurely speed of probably 3 m.p.h. with their heads about a foot from the ground, and if anything was thrown at them they just raised their heads higher and perhaps looked round but continued their leisurely retreat.

The fastest snake I ever saw was when I was bicycling on a native path through a bit of open ground which had had its grass burnt and was showing green again. I disturbed this snake which seemed about 4 ft. long and lightish blue in colour, on my

right two or three yards off. It then crossed the path just in front of me, incidentally giving me such a fright that I nearly fell off the bicycle, and continued towards my left front, gaining on me at about 7-8 m.p.h. and I reckon my speed was just about the same, so it would appear that this snake was doing in the region of 15 m.p.h. From my description of it, my natives told me it was harmless.

I was interested to see a letter in your issue of September 8 on the standard-winged nightjar. During 1903-09 I walked many thousand miles prospecting and mapping in the bush in Katanga, chiefly to the west of the Lualaba River and between lat. 10° S. and the Congo-Zambesi watershed. These lovely birds were very common especially towards the end of the dry season and at the early part of the wet season. I used to find numbers of their nests, or rather their two eggs

bottom of the garden. The nest was situated on the head of a wooden rake leaning against the side wall and the nest was interwoven among the prongs.

For a week after nothing happened and the shed had to be cleared out, the nest and rake had to be separated, but all was carefully replaced in the same position. Next day there was the first egg with the familiar markings. In all, five eggs were laid, and the sitting began.

It was then that I used to go down to her, every so often, with a few worms. I held them near her, and she would soon take them without any fear at all. How I wish I had a photograph! I could never feed the young as I was all too soon back at school, but I was told that they all thrived.—F. J. RONALDSON, *Sunny-croft, Sunninghill, Berkshire.*



MOTHER AND "QUINS" LICK THE PLATTER CLEAN

See letter: A Hedgehog Family

laid on the bare ground. The eggs are like those of our nightjar but the ground colour is more brick red. They sit very closely, and when disturbed from well incubated eggs they will fly off two or three yards and if followed they will feign injury. In the early rains at twilight the air in some places is full of them flying backwards and forwards hawking flies, and when close the snapping of their bills can be heard as they catch flies. As they fly silently past their long wing feathers stream behind with an undulating movement. They have a lovely "bubbling" sort of note.—H. COOKSON, *Hazleburn, West Linton, Peeblesshire.*

A FRIENDLY BLACKBIRD

SIR,—Having read of other readers' friendly birds, I thought it might be of interest if I told you of a female blackbird which nested in our garden.

Arriving home from school one April, I went on my usual stroll round the garden and noticed a blackbird building in the tool-shed at the

A HEDGEHOG FAMILY

SIR,—Here is one mother and family with no housing problems. She took up residence in a foundry in Weymouth, without so much as by your leave, has the run of the place, and brooks no interference from anyone.

For some time past the men employed at this foundry had been mystified by paw marks in the sand every morning on resuming work. Some said "Rats," others said the marks were too large.

Anyway, the mystery was cleared up one evening when they were sitting all quiet, at tea. Suddenly, someone heard a kind of grunt, something like a pig would make, and upon investigation discovered a hedgehog underneath a work-bench actually in the act of giving birth to "quins."

From that day onwards the men could not do enough for the mother, and she probably has more milk than ever before.

The photograph shows the family just finishing off a light lunch. One

of the "quins" was rather shy of the photographer and has run behind its mother.—R. J. LUCE, *Weymouth, Dorset.*

CAN HENS COUNT?

SIR,—Can hens count? The following incident may have a certain bearing upon this often-posed question.

A small brown Leghorn hen of mine, noted for the unconquerable juvenility of her appearance and for her seeming endless supply of eggs, displayed this Autumn a desire to sit, which she did in some straw in the barn. Near her nest was a little heap of chalk, and when her first egg was removed she replaced it by a fair-sized piece from this heap. This she did with each successive egg which was taken from her, until she had accumulated a tally of about 16. She then left off laying, and also left off collecting chalk "nest eggs."

This performance certainly seems to indicate something in the nature of an ability to count, as well as a greater degree of intelligence than the—to my thinking—much-maligned domestic fowl is usually credited with.—C. FOX SMITH, *Soberton House, Soberton, Hampshire.*

FOXES AND RABBITS

SIR,—Yesterday while out walking I saw a large fox lying down in a field by a wood. I was very surprised to see about a dozen rabbits feeding a few yards away from it, without any concern at all. I thought foxes killed rabbits and had them for food.—RONALD POTTER (age 12), *Oakdene, Pontrilas, near Hereford.*

[Although foxes prey largely on rabbits, rabbits are often strangely indifferent to their presence. We have seen nearly full-grown cubs making half-playful, half-serious rushes at feeding rabbits, and the rabbits merely hopped out of the way. Major Jarvis refers on page 589 to the case of the Muscovy duck and foxes.—ED.]

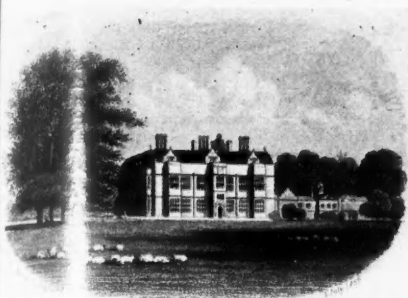
A HUNGRY FOX'S SMELL

SIR,—I have just seen in COUNTRY LIFE the letter and footnote about what seem like truces between rabbits and foxes. There is a phenomenon, familiar to many of us, which possibly has some bearing on this question.

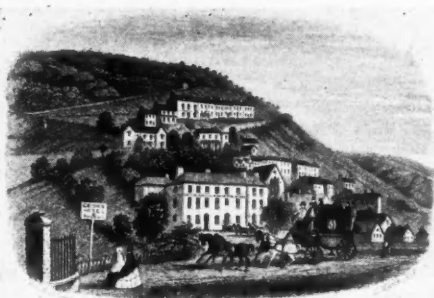
On a summer evening I have seen in a field full of rabbits a full-grown vixen trotting about among them. It is true that they keep just out of her way, but her presence seems to cause no undue alarm.

The probable explanation is that the fox, when hungry, gives out a certain scent, and that when this scent is absent, rabbits are almost unconcerned.

The fact that a fox does not make for its neighbours, either rabbits or poultry, may have several explanations, but I rather think that the soundest one is that "familiarity breeds contempt." The horse always seems to believe that the grass of the

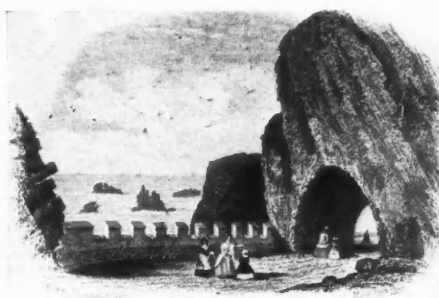


FELBRIGG HALL,
NORFOLK



THE CROWN HOTEL, LYNTON,
NORTH DEVON

See letter: Pictured Letter-paper



LADIES' BATHING COVE,
ILFRACOMBE, DEVON

other side of the fence is better than its own, and I suspect the fox of the same self-deception. It is, in fact, a characteristic of human beings as well, and must be well nigh universal.—R. J. MORRIS, *Great Walsstead, Lindfield, near Hayward's Heath, Sussex.*

THE LASS OF RICHMOND HILL

SIR,—In your delightful account of Twickenham (September 8) and its associations you assign to Mrs. Fitzherbert, the morganatic wife of George IV, the title of the Lass of Richmond Hill. Now the older Richmond in Yorkshire claims the heroine of the famous song to be a "Yorkshire Lass." As told by a member of her family, William I'Anson, F.S.A. (see *Yorkshire Archaeological Journal*, Vol. 25, 1920), the lass was Frances I'Anson whose forbears for at least eight generations had been tenants of the Lords Bolton in Wensleydale.

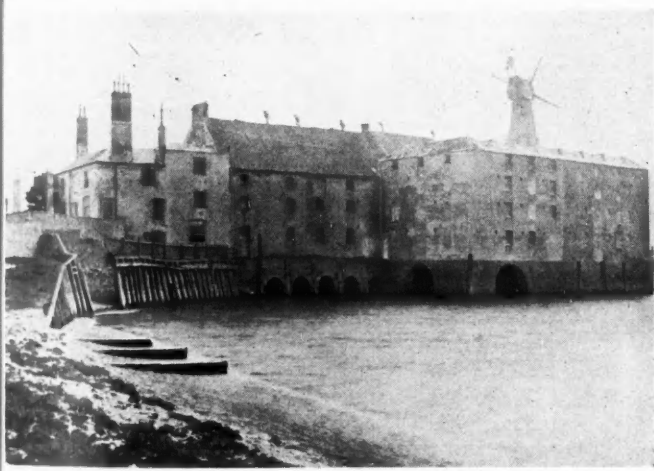
PICTURED LETTER-PAPER

SIR,—In view of the interest taken in the previous examples of printed letter-paper, I send three other charming specimens of this fashion, all engraved by Rock and Co., London, and published during the 1850s.

This firm of Rock and Co. produced the best examples of the art that I have. I wonder if the trade card of this firm is in any collection. It should be a very pretty one.—A. G. WADE (Major), *Ash Cottage, Bentley, Hampshire.*

A TIDAL MILL

SIR,—I was interested in the recent article on mills. I enclose an old photograph (taken in the 90s of last century) of a large tidal mill at Bishopstone, on the sea coast between Seaford and Newhaven in Sussex, which was in full use for grinding corn and, I believe, may still be in use, unless coastal defences have necessitated its non-use. It was in use



THE LARGE TIDAL MILL AT BISHOPSTONE

[See letter: A Tidal Mill]

Frances was born at Leyburn on October 17, 1766, and married, against her father's wishes, Leonard McNally, the notorious Irish barrister, generally supposed to have been the author of the song. Her father was William I'Anson of the Hill House, Richmond; Cotgrove Place, Nottinghamshire; Leyburn; and Bedford Row, London, where he practised as a solicitor.—I. P. PRESTLY, *York.*

[The authorship of the words to *The Lass of Richmond Hill* has also been variously assigned to George III, Leonard McNally, W. Upton and W. H. W. Miss Crofts, of Richmond, and Lady Sarah Lennox also compete for the honour of being their subject. The truth is probably one of those double-barrelled truths so common to history: very possibly someone wrote the verses to celebrate the charms of his sweetheart and the public applied them to the better-known resident of a Richmond Hill whose lover had a crown to lose—and did not lose it.—Ed.]

during the last war. The large catchment basin is shown at low tide, the sea being beyond the mill. The sluice-gates were opened to impound the rising tide, and closed at high tide, and the mill worked on the ebb.—F. J. VARLEY, *Oxford.*

A MONSTER EXPLAINED

SIR,—I think the following incident may prove of interest.

During a recent visit to the Outer Hebrides my wife and I were lunching on the shores of a sheltered bay on a well-known sea-trout loch. Suddenly we noticed an object at least 12 ft. long swimming up the loch and across the entrance to the bay some 100 yds. away.

It appeared to consist of a head followed by a series of humps. Our exclamations of astonishment reached the ears of the "monster." The humps disappeared and were replaced by the heads of a large otter and a series of little ones. After a moment's disapproving scrutiny the family pro-



A MODERN WALL-HANGING IN THE POSSESSION
OF MR. H. M. SWANN

See letter: Modern Wall Hangings

cession disintegrated and another good "monster" story dissolved into deep water.—RONALD N. CARR, *Carlisle, Cumberland.*

[We almost regret that what might have been a first-class "monster" dissolved in this way, but an otter and family were well worth seeing.—Ed.]

MODERN WALL HANGINGS

SIR,—In a recent issue Miss Elsie Matley Moore says in her interesting article on painted wall-hangings that "many half-timbered houses would be considerably warmer if these comparatively cheap hangings came into fashion again." Miss Moore and your readers may be interested to know that efforts were in fact being made to revive this art just before the war.

The enclosed photograph is of one of several which have been hanging in place now for six years and are bright and cheerful and have not yet even needed cleaning, though this is possible without detriment to them and they resist damp. Production of these painted wall-hangings has been held up because of the war, but it is to be hoped that peace-time will see these endeavours in full swing once again.—J. SYKES, *Sutton Wick House, near Abingdon, Berkshire.*

[It is interesting to see that this

technique has been revived, and that it is capable of producing naturalistic accuracy, though it is doubtful whether the older, more stylised type of design was not more satisfactory.—Ed.]

A HOUSE IN AMERICA

SIR,—I was interested in your two articles on Parish's House, Tisbury, in the numbers of July 7 and 14. The plan of the house and the mention of "the peculiar type of sliding shutters" show some similarity to the house at 101, Brattle Street, Cambridge, Massachusetts, U.S.A., of which I enclose a photograph. All the shutters on this house are of the same sliding variety. Also, an even more unusual feature, the four french windows, on either side of the central semicircular windows, are also "sliding" and push into the wall instead of opening outwards. This house, although a handsome and well-planned "Regency" style building with some period decoration and two oval rooms, was only built in 1846. It is built of wood with an iron veranda on the upper floor, and tradition has it that the architect was a Frenchman, in which case he may have been a refugee from the Revolution brought up in England, as the house has the appearance of a distinctly English Regency building. The house in the background,



A WOODEN REGENCY HOUSE OF 1846 IN MASSACHUSETTS

See letter: A House in America

seen through trees, is Longfellow House, the home of the poet.—
—R. BURDON-MULLER, Cedar Lodge, Camden, Maine, U.S.A.

THE STORY OF A COMMUNION TABLE

SIR,—Besides the 16th-century Gothic rood loft of oak, illustrated by Mr. James Workman in COUNTRY LIFE recently, Hubberholme Church, in Wharfedale, possesses a very remarkable Charles II communion table of cedarwood. Its presence in this Yorkshire church is an outstanding example of the vagaries of mid-Victorian taste. It was made for the consecration of the chapel at University College, Oxford, in 1665, the reredos, decorated with limewood carvings in the style of Grinling Gibbons, together with the surrounding panelling, also of cedarwood, being added in 1694.

In 1862 an unfortunate decision was taken to "improve" the east end of the chapel, and Sir Gilbert Scott was called in to bring it up to date in accordance with the prevailing Gothic taste. The whole of the ancient woodwork surrounding the sacrum with its richly moulded panelling, pilasters and carvings was taken down, and an elaborate stone reredos of 14th-century design surmounted by pinnacles and flanked by an arcading erected.

The Charles II communion table was presented to the parish church of Hubberholme—then a College living—and its place taken by a deal-framed structure with an embroidered frontal. The communion table, which is 5 ft. 2 ins. long and 2 ft. from front to back, is of solid cedarwood, except the sloping framework beneath the top which is veneered. The construction of the legs is unusual, the spiral twist being carved out separately and applied.

The original reredos consisting of three bays with their flanking pilasters was preserved, and fitted up on the walls of the College treasury above the main gateway. Sixty years later, in 1924, Sir Michael Sadler on his appointment as Master of University College, with the architectural advice of Mr. A. S. G. Butler, had it replaced in front of Sir Gilbert Scott's stone reredos; the stone arcading was hidden by crimson brocade hangings, and a finely carved and inlaid Jacobean oak table of about 1610 brought out from the Master's Lodgings to serve as a communion table, the deal one with its embroidered covering being presented to a church in Oxford.

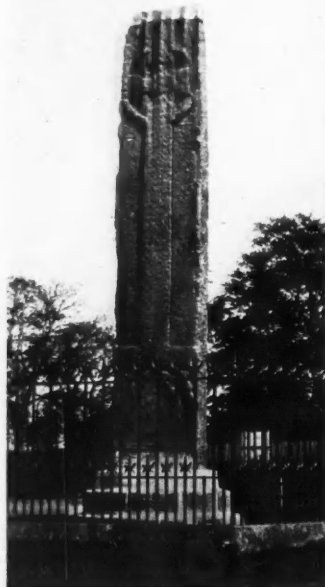
I have not been able to find the bill for the Charles II communion table. The bill for the limewood carvings upon the cedarwood rere-



A CHARLES II COMMUNION TABLE OF CEDARWOOD MADE FOR THE CHAPEL OF UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, OXFORD

See letter: The Story of a Communion Table

dos, against which the communion table stood from 1694 onwards, is preserved in the College archives: "To ye Carver for work at ye Altar £10.00.00." The carver's name is not shown. The photograph of the communion table has been taken by Mr. Harry Lea of Sheffield. The name of the joiner who erected the very handsome oak stalls at about the same time in the body of the chapel, which joined up with the cedarwood panelling in the sacrum, is given as Thomas Richardson, but no date or price is attached. Both the reredos and stalls are erroneously attributed in the *Historical Monuments of Oxford* (1939) to Thomas Barker.



SWENO'S STONE

See letter: Britain's Roadside Pillars

Robert Barker, of St. Giles in the Fields (not Thomas Barker, as stated by the same authority), is recorded in the archives as the joiner who was responsible for the magnificent screen erected in 1695 in the ante-chapel of the College at the cost of £505 14s. 6d.—H. CLIFFORD SMITH, Highclere, near Newbury, Berkshire.

BRITAIN'S ROADSIDE PILLARS

SIR,—In spite of the comprehensive title *Britain's Roadside Pillars*, it was noticeable that the article which appeared recently in COUNTRY LIFE made no reference to any examples north of the Tweed. Although not so plentiful in

Scotland as farther south, there are some well worth attention.

Perhaps one of the best-known is Sweno's Stone near Forres in Morayshire, a photograph of which I enclose. I have heard it described as the largest single-stone carved monument in the kingdom, its height being about 24 ft., width 4 ft., and thickness 15 ins., and it is cut from an extremely hard red stone which has resisted weathering to a remarkable degree. On one side there are numerous sculptured figures of horses and human beings; on the other a Celtic cross is carved the full length of the stone, and delicately interlaced vine-scroll fills the sides.

The popular belief that the pillar commemorates the final victory of the Scots over Sweno and his Danes is no longer seriously held. Experts seem to agree that it belongs to the tenth or eleventh century, but some are of the opinion that the carvings on the two main faces have been executed at different dates.—T. LESLIE SMITH, Ashwood, Broughty Ferry, Angus.

TO GET RID OF WASPS

SIR,—Recent correspondence in your pages regarding the destruction of wasps' nests raises the question whether cyanide has any effect on the wasp larvæ and pupæ. We are always advised to dig out the nests and make sure of their immature population, but one of your contributors warned us against giving the "comb" to the chickens. If cyanide kills by suffocation, as I understand is the case, and if the grubs have escaped the effects of the gas, then need we fear any harm to the chickens? I have seen a tame thrush eat wasp larvæ from a nest taken with the help of cyanide and it suffered no ill effects.

But there is a simple method of dealing with a wasps' nest, at least with the underground nest of *Vespa vulgaris*, from which no deleterious result to any creature, except the wasps, need be feared, and that is to pour a little tar down the entrance hole. The luckless insects stick on it and the later hatched wasps are likewise caught by it. These later wasps are often a considerable brigade, as will be realised if the accompanying photographs are studied, which show first a nest with its covering of earth removed, and then the same nest minus its paper walls and with its tiers of cells exposed. In these cells can be seen larvæ at all stages. There are also a large number of cells covered over which contain pupæ.—P.

The title of a picture published on page 503 of the issue of COUNTRY LIFE of September 22 should have read *The Openings, Robin Hood's Bay*, not *The Openings, Whitby*.



A WASPS' NEST EXPOSED BY THE REMOVAL OF EARTH



WITH ITS PAPER WALLS REMOVED, SHOWING TIERS OF CELLS

See letter: To Get Rid of Wasps

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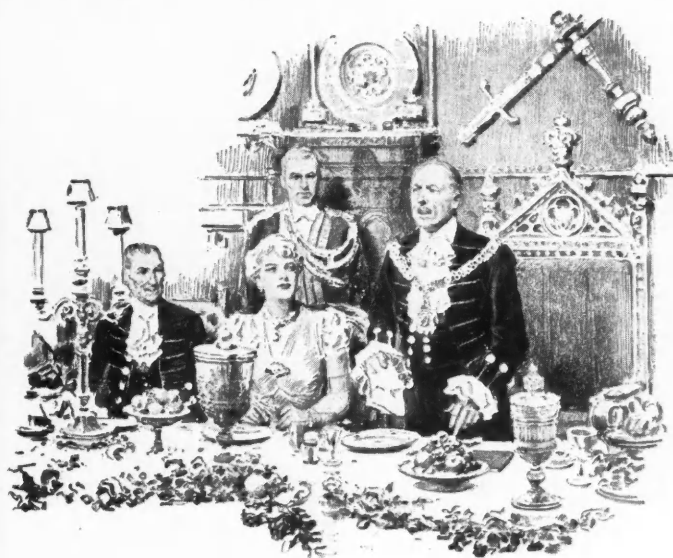
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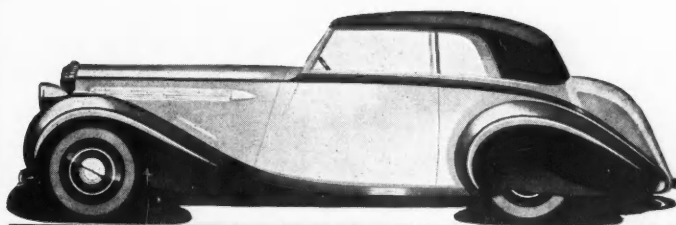
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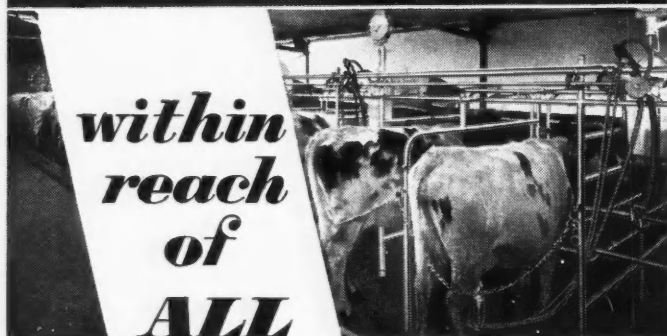
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FARMING NOTES

THE MILK MARKETING BOARD PLANS

FOR 11 years dairy farmers have had their own organisation in the Milk Marketing Board. In the early days the Board was chiefly concerned to secure better selling prices for farmers' milk. The wholesalers and distributors in the towns were well organised and could present a strong bargaining front. It needed the comprehensive organisation of producers to make a match and put prices on a level that gave all concerned a fair share of the prices the consumer paid. It was uphill work for the Milk Marketing Board. Although the majority of milk producers had put the Board in authority, there was a substantial minority who preferred the old ways of individual bargaining. But the Board soon proved its worth and the position of producers as a whole has been immeasurably strengthened. During the war the Board has operated as an adjunct of the Ministry of Food. It was most convenient and economical to use the accounting machinery already set up by the Board and its organisation throughout the country which farmers knew. Now the Board is planning to launch out on its own account by giving producers technical service in several ways.

THE Milk Board has already taken milk-recording under its wing. This is an efficiency measure which is the basis of livestock improvement in our dairy breeds. Unless a farmer knows accurately how much each of his cows is giving throughout her lactation and can pick the persistent heavy milkers, his breeding policy must be hit-and-miss and he may or may not be successful in raising the efficiency of his herd. A remarkable statement, made recently by Dr. John Hammond, illustrates the importance of recording yields and breeding for milk. He says: A cow yielding only 320 gallons a year will use 56 per cent. of her ration to keep her alive and only 44 per cent. goes for milk production. On the other hand, with a cow giving 858 gallons a year, only 35 per cent. of the food she consumes is used to keep her alive and 65 per cent. goes for milk production. I am quoting from the pamphlet which Dr. Hammond has written for the Bath and West Society. As Dr. Hammond says, low-yielding cows are expensive animals to keep as pets. Since the Milk Board began to foster milk-recording, rapid progress has been made and this Autumn many more herds will be starting to keep records under the national scheme. Unfortunately, man-power has been short and not every district has had a full service. I have heard farmers complaining that they got a better service from the milk-recording societies when they were run independently. These troubles are being overcome as more recorders can be recruited and trained to keep pace with the demand for their services.

HAVING undertaken also to provide a national service of artificial insemination, the Milk Marketing Board is now looking for an agricultural scientist with an intimate knowledge of livestock breeding to take charge of the livestock improvement department which the Board is creating. The starting salary is to be £1,000 a year and there is clearly scope here for an enterprising man. The Board is already committed to start six insemination centres in the first year and these are to be widely dispersed over the country so that milk-producers in several areas can have the benefit of the service and form

their own opinions about its extension. The use of good bulls in the heavily stocked dairy districts will do much to raise yields in the course of a generation or two and enable small producers to get even better results. It will make all the difference to their livelihood if they can get an extra 100 gallons per cow, and this is a practicable aim.

BOTH milk-recording and artificial insemination are services that a producers' body like the Milk Marketing Board is well qualified to organise. There should, however, be a clear line drawn between such services and the purely advisory functions that are now provided by the Government and local authorities. Farmers do not want a host of advisers buzzing round their farms every day of the week. Let the Marketing Boards keep to technical services and let the Government provide the advisory services and agricultural education. We have heard something about the form which the new National Advisory Service is to take. Professor Scott Watson has been appointed chief of this new service and several of the senior county organisers have been approached by the Ministry with a view to their becoming heads of the advisory service in the provinces. There will also be county advisory officers who will have their staffs able to deal with the everyday problems presented in farming practice. They will have a call on expert mycologists, chemists, economists and so on at the provincial centres.

THIS set-up will not be much different from the advisory service we had before the war. The chief difference will be that it will be a Government service throughout and that farmers in every county will be able to get sound advice. In the old days some counties were much more forthcoming than others. There were areas in which the advisory service hardly functioned at all. It may be more than coincidence that these proved to be areas where farmers found most difficulty in adapting their production methods to war-time requirements. They were in a rut and it has taken them three or four years to catch up with the rest of the country.

IN these war years we have all learned a lot and many prejudices have been broken down. There must be very few farmers who have no good word to say to-day for the advice they can get through the war agricultural committees and particularly the technical development committees. Only the most ignorant are content to believe that they know all there is to know about farming. Many more farmers want their sons to have the advantage of a training course at an agricultural college or farm institute. Father can teach son the essential knowledge of farm practice, but he cannot instil the rudiments of scientific knowledge that the 20th-century farmer in Britain needs to hold his own with the world. We do not want all our farmers to be Bachelors of Science. Probably they would not be very good farmers if they devoted themselves to such intensive training at a university. But it is a business advantage to have some basic understanding of chemistry, botany, physiology and so on. This can be got in applied form at a farm institute or more fully at an agricultural college. Personally I hope the day is not far distant when the majority, instead of a small minority, of British farmers will have this advantage.

CINCINNATUS.

THE ESTATE MARKET

THE GROUND RENT AS INVESTMENT

WHAT has always been called gilt-edged investments are growing in attractiveness every day and being tenaciously held by their fortunate owners, so that opportunities to test the trend by actual transactions are comparatively rare.

THE PURCHASING POWER OF MONEY

There is no getting away from the fact that the monetary outlook of the elements of the increasing appreciation of the chief real property investment, the freehold ground rent. The purchasing power of money has declined, and the process may be arrested for some time to come. Interest rates on Government stock, on average, even with the possible reason on the eventual redemption, only a trifle over 2½ per cent. Of course, for a variety of very good reasons, quite independent of their yield, the stocks are taken up alike by the large and the small capitalists, but there is a certain class of investor who is seeking an opening for the employment of large funds for a long lock-up, and naturally he wishes if possible to get in on a rather better basis of yield than that generally obtainable at the moment. Whatever may happen to the value of money in the immediate future, he would be an incurable pessimist who did not entertain the fairly confident hope that eventually rates of interest will again take an upward turn. In fact there are pretty shrewd judges of finance in general who predict that, at no very distant period, interest may rule at one or two per cent. higher than at present. Perhaps too much has been made, in arguments against the Uthwatt Report and the legislative proposals for the control of land, of the monetary outlook.

FEW GROUND RENTS ON OFFER

GROUND rents are the most coveted of real investments; that much will be conceded by everyone who knows how difficult it is to find a ground rent of the best class for disposal. If to its inherent quality be added the requirement that the security shall be one that affords a large annual income, then the likelihood that one will be found for sale is remote. Reversions, part of the rights of the holder of any ground rent, need a word or two of separate consideration. It will be borne in mind that the time-honoured formula regarding any freehold ground rent is that, in consideration of the landowner's right to the whole and sole possession of the site and whatever has been built on it, at the end of the lease, the ground rent has been fixed at a point below what would otherwise be the annual value of the land. This reversionary right has a value from the start of the contract, and that value increases year by year throughout the currency of the lease. But as leases vary from, in the common case of the ordinary dwelling-house, 99 years, to 999 years in the case of large and important properties, the reversionary value may be small, in fact negligible as a marketable item, until it comes within, say, 40 to 50 years of maturity.

MISSING FACTOR

IN the recently recorded instance of the sale of Berkeley Square House, W.1, there was an inexplicable omission, on the part of those who circulated the announcement of the sale, to mention one most vital fact, the term of the lease. We are able now to rectify the omission by stating that the lease has 193 years unexpired, that is to say that it was originally for 200 years. Even in the case of such

a property as that in Berkeley Square the market value of the reversion, therefore, is, from the standpoint of an immediate buyer, almost microscopic.

EFFECT OF HIGH BUILDING COSTS

ONE of the dominant factors in considering the value of good ground rents to-day is the cost of building. Post-war buildings will cost much more than similar works cost before the war, and rentals will increase, if they are to be on an economic scale. This fact tends to give an increased stability to any ground rent, and it affects Berkeley Square as much as it must the meanest row of suburban terrace-houses. The variation in the quality of ground rents has been hinted at, and it will suffice to say that there is an evident difference in value between a fairly-fixed ground rent for a long term on the site of new and substantial premises, and that which is sometimes dignified with the name of freehold ground rent, a rent to arise from old and poorly-built property which will be of little or no value as buildings at the expiry of the term, and possibly not in a very valuable locality.

It will be clear from the foregoing examination of some aspects of ground rents that the task of fixing a market value for ground rents is one for the experts, first the lawyers who analyse the lease itself, and then the valuer who knows all about the property and its prospects; they must decide how many years' purchase is reasonable as between vendor and purchaser. It was, in the later Victorian period the rule to assume 20 years' purchase as the fair price of an average quality freehold ground rent. On the whole the tendency of values has been upwards, and so it is likely to be.

NEW-COMERS INTO COMPETITION

THE rise may not be very rapid or to a level greatly beyond what was normal in pre-war days, but there are indications that the field of competition will be much enlarged, and that the insurance companies, which have hitherto had it much to themselves, must henceforth reckon with great charitable and other corporations as possible and spirited bidders for the best class of these securities. This is a gratifying reflection for the ground landlords of the many enormous structures that have been raised in London in recent years, seeing that the ground rents reserved on the properties are usually of an amount that can only appeal to very big buyers, and that it is impossible to split up the income to enable small investors to compete.

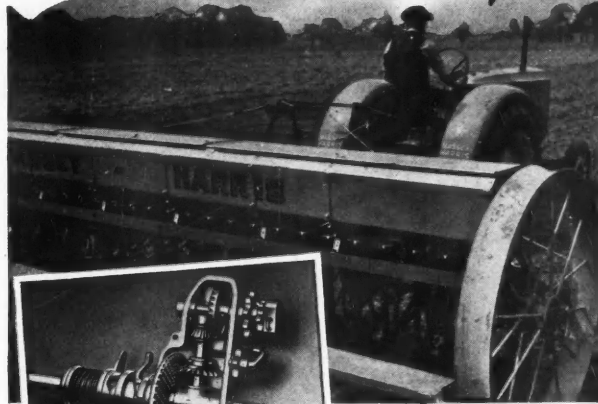
WELSH SALE

FEW recent auctions have been attended by a more crowded and eager company than that at Whitland, by Messrs. Jackson Stops and Staff's Yeovil office. The local people were over-cautious in bidding, but they stuck to the job, and many of them got what they wanted, though it gave Mr. Leslie H. G. Waite plenty to do to reach the selling prices. In the end all but one of the 25 lots changed hands for a total of £12,235. The property consisted of what may be called the remnant of the once vast estate of Maesgwynne in Carmarthenshire. It formerly belonged to Mr. Walter Powell, M.P., who was a notable sportsman. The hunter stabling has long since been converted to cow-stalls, and the milk yield of the local farms enjoys a high reputation both for quantity and all-round quality.

The pretty farm-house and 124 acres of Tugley Farm, Chiddingfold, have changed hands at an auction at Guildford, for £7,000. ARBITER.

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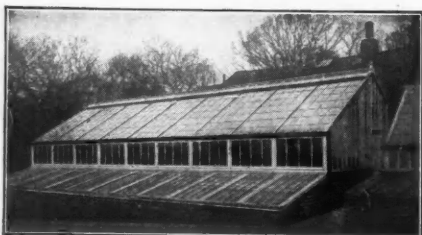
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NEW BOOKS

A CLASSIC OF THE RED INDIAN

Reviews by HOWARD SPRING

YOUNG Francis Parkman, the son of a noted Boston clergyman, was 23, just done with Harvard, when he set out on the Oregon trail in 1846. As near as makes no difference, that is a hundred years ago, and to read an account of his journey is as good a way as I know of finding a measuring-rod by which to examine American achievement during the past century.

The Oxford University Press gives us the opportunity of making anew this journey with Parkman, for they have published an attractive new edition of his book *The Oregon Trail* (8s. 6d.).

THE COVERED WAGONS

If you were to draw two lines from north to south cutting the map of the United States into three roughly equal sections, you would see the eastern line passing through St. Louis, which is near the spot where the Missouri flows into the Mississippi, and the western line following the range of the Rocky Mountains. It was the area between these two points that Parkman explored, an area through which already, moving in convoys like ships under threat of an enemy, the covered wagons were making their way, an area of prairies, mountains, great rivers and great forests, full of game and full of Indian tribes violently at war with one another, treacherous and unreliable where the white men were concerned.

Parkman, thus early, had conceived the idea of becoming a historian and his theme was to be the war of the French and the English for the possession of North America. As he saw it, the Indian tribes, and the forests in which these men, unchanged since the Stone Age, had lived, were factors of supreme importance in the struggle. He resolved to have first-hand knowledge of these bases of his life's work: a work which we know he was to carry through, against great difficulties, to a distinguished end.

The chief of these difficulties was his health. The time was to come when his eyes would be so badly affected that he could keep them open only in a dark room. He invented a small piece of apparatus for supporting his head as he made notes in the dark from books and documents that were read to him. Even this he could do only for half an hour at a time, so great was his exhaustion. But in these conditions he produced his famous book *The Conspiracy of Pontiac*.

During this journey west along the Oregon and back east by the Santa Fe Trail, the malady already made itself felt. At one time he wrote "I was so reduced by illness that I could seldom walk without reeling like a drunken man." Nevertheless, he spent days on end in the saddle, was perpetually in the reezy fug of

Indian tents, and gallantly endured the hospitality which insisted on his eating meal after meal and smoking pipe after pipe. Characteristically after trying various cures, he decided that the way to deal with his illness was to go on as though it did not exist.

Although at this time the covered wagons were drawing their attenuated threads here and there through the vast pattern of life in the wilderness, Parkman had little to do with them and spent all the time he could living in Indian villages and exploring the forests and prairies. Here, rather than in the novels of Fennimore Cooper, we have the authentic feel of prehistoric American life, the sense of what that vast continent was like before those fertilising threads of settlers had seminated the desert. Parkman did not reach a high opinion of the Indians, whom he found dull and unresponsive of ideas, boastful, vain and treacherous.

HISTORIAN'S PROPHECY

It is remarkable that so young a man should have had so clear a foresight. He knew that he was seizing the last possible moment for recording this aboriginal life before it vanished like mist in the morning. He draws a picture of an Indian village, and goes on: "At the same time a long train of emigrants with their heavy wagons was crossing the creek, and dragging on in slow procession by the people whom they and their descendants, in the space of a century, are to sweep from the face of the earth." And again: "Great changes are at hand in that region. With the stream of emigration to Oregon and California, the buffalo will dwindle away, and the large wandering communities who depend on them for support must be broken and scattered. The Indians will soon be abased by whisky and overawed by military posts; so that within a few years the traveller may pass in tolerable security through their country. Its danger and its charm will have disappeared altogether."

But now, while he is wandering and watching, the buffalo are still there, and he gives us some memorable accounts of how he rode forth with the Indians to harry the herds on whom they depended for "habitations, food, clothing, beds, and fuel; strings for their bows, glue, thread, cordage, trail-ropes for their horses, coverings for their saddles, vessels to hold water, boats to cross streams, and the means of purchasing all that they want from the traders. When the buffalo are extinct, they too must dwindle away."

All this was for the future. Now he watches "the face of the country dotted far and wide with countless hundreds of buffalo"; and the numerous antelope and wolves; and the

THE OREGON TRAIL
By Francis Parkman
(Oxford University Press, 8s. 6d.)

DOCTOR PHILLICO
By C. E. Vulliamy
(Michael Joseph, 12s. 6d.)

HOME FROM THE SEA
By Godfrey Winn
(Hutchinson, 10s. 6d.)

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DOUBLE DISSOLUTION

The weakness of this method of compiling rather than writing a book is that inevitably it reflects the views of its author rather than of the characters passed off as author. The author

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Official anguish has no eyes to wipe.
V. H. F.



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THE BLOUSE FOR YOUR SUIT



PHOTOGRAPHS: DERMOT CONOLLY

- Paisley blouse for the plain tailor-made, with detachable bow, stiffened collar and cuffs, in a rayon poplin in shades of gold and tawny brown or peacock blues. Simpson's

- The kind of shirt that is made in thin wool in deep bright shades, in pastel crepes, in men's striped shirting, in white as this one from Lillywhites

THE popularity of the plain tailor-made has given the shirt-makers a great opportunity which they have seized with both hands. The shirt, intended to be worn without a jacket so that it looks like a frock with the skirt of the suit, is shown in all collections. It is long-sleeved, often has stiffened or machine-stitched collars and cuffs and often a yoke seamed to a point, or it is seamed on the shoulders to give the appearance of epaulettes. It is brightly coloured, when it is fine wool, in a clear pastel when it is crêpe, sometimes striped or plain, more often Paisley-patterned. Favourite materials are fine woollens like a delaine, wool jersey, heavy rayon crêpes, tie-silk, rayon poplin, cotton shirtings, superfine worsteds checked like a gingham. The Wool Secretariat are showing worsteds, fine as Egyptian cotton, screen-printed in small lively "conversation" pieces. The clear etched look to the design is most effective and the neat designs are perfect for shirts.

For the evening blouse pliable rayon crêpes and satin, heavy silk jersey, velvet, lamé and chiffon are shown in a vast variety of styles. The crêpes and jerseys are often short-sleeved; the lamés generally long. Often the blouse fits over the skirt with a shaped waistband or sash; in other versions it tucks into a skirt that has a high corselet top and then it is short-sleeved and low-necked. When it is transparent, it has long sleeves and is tailored like a cotton shirting.

Some of the prettiest of shirts, as always,

were shown in the Creed collection at Fortnum and Mason's. A scarlet and Christmas-tree green plaid shirt went under a green topcoat lined with the plaid, not only throughout but under the flat revers and collars as well, so that just a flash of the scarlet showed. The blouse was open-necked and short-sleeved. The coat had two deep box pleats at the back held by a belt. Most of the tie-silk blouses tied at the throat into a bow. Grey-blue was shown with a plum tweed; mustard yellow with a grey and yellow striped suiting where a narrow yellow line broke mixed stripes of herring-bone and diagonal. A black barathea tailor-made was given a black and yellow tie-silk blouse with a big bow under the chin. Another black, a fine firm tweed in a basket weave, had a cyclamen-pink shirt in tie-silk.

A SPLENDID series of topcoats in the Creed collection fitted the waistline and had a swing to their hemlines. A beaver brown with full straight sleeves had a tiny belt on the waist at the back holding the seams of a narrow panel that ran the full length of the coat. This back interest is featured on most of the coats, while many of the suits have two box pleats at the back of their skirts or a panel and are left absolutely plain in front. A cinnamon, form-fitting coat in whipcord is excellent for town. The fly fastening is set slightly to one side, the sleeves slit on the outside at the wrist, and faced with black which can be turned back to three-quarter length making a black cuff, or left to hang straight to the wristbone with

the black part barely visible. This is the type of coat for the smooth *coiffure* and one of the bonnets in velvet or felt that fit round the face with a flat band over the hair and are peaked at the back in a way reminiscent of old Dutch portraits. A check tweed coat in duck-egg blue and soft brown has one huge box-pleat at the back and a double-breasted front fastening buttoning with round brown discs of leather held by thongs of oyster coloured leather.

The more dressy type of afternoon blouse is made to be worn out to dinner under town coats in cloth or fur with a short skirt; or with a tailor-made in smooth cloth or corded velvet; or to dinners and dances with a long black velvet skirt. Jan Meredith shows a pretty crêpe one with a V opening at the neck framed by a tiny roll collar that is in turn bordered by a flat pleated frill of the same hydrangea-blue crêpe that makes the blouse. Creed shows a candy-pink silk blouse with black corded velvet, tailor-made. Rahvis makes tunics for evening with pleated epaulettes that jut over columns of skirts, and plain, square or V necklines. These are held tightly by a broad belt at the waist and the yoke or sleeves are often in velvet or silk of the same colour as the wool that makes the rest of the tunic. Combinations of black faced cloth and velvet are most effective and have been shown with them are of black velvet to the face. A sun-bonnet in velvet is worn right back from the face. The short sleeves of the Rahvis tunics are cut with epaulettes that make a padded ledge on top of the

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Peter Robinson



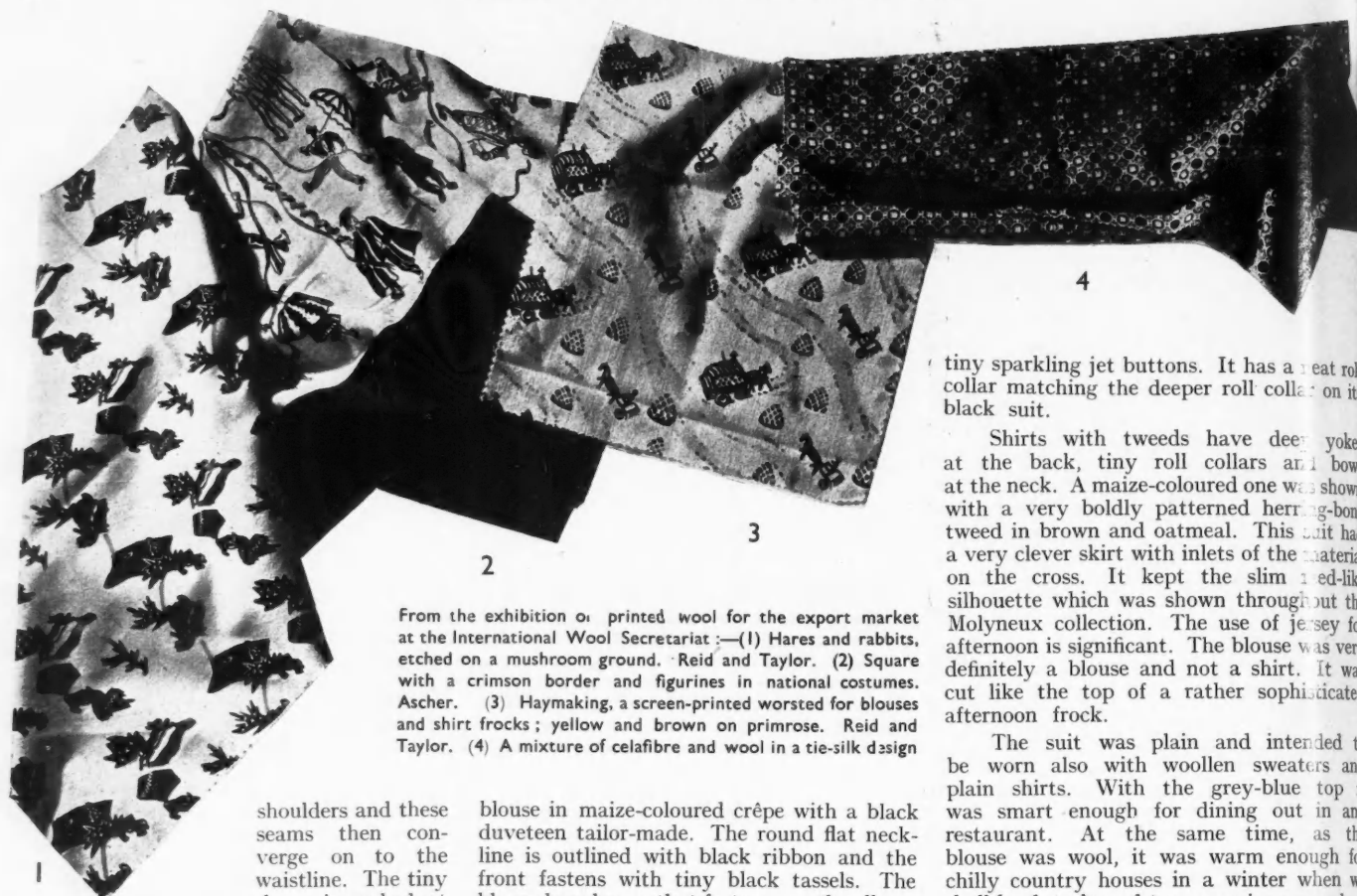
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From the exhibition of printed wool for the export market at the International Wool Secretariat:—(1) Hares and rabbits, etched on a mushroom ground. Reid and Taylor. (2) Square with a crimson border and figurines in national costumes. Ascher. (3) Haymaking, a screen-printed worsted for blouses and shirt frocks; yellow and brown on primrose. Reid and Taylor. (4) A mixture of celafibre and wool in a tie-silk design

shoulders and these seams then converge on to the waistline. The tiny sleeve is ruched at the bottom quite tightly to the arm.

Molyneux shows a pretty afternoon

blouse in maize-coloured crêpe with a black duveteen tailor-made. The round flat neckline is outlined with black ribbon and the front fastens with tiny black tassels. The blouse has sleeves that fasten over the elbow. A blouse in grey-blue woollen jersey has the same three-quarter sleeve and fastens with

tiny sparkling jet buttons. It has a neat roll collar matching the deeper roll collar on its black suit.

Shirts with tweeds have deep yokes at the back, tiny roll collars and bows at the neck. A maize-coloured one was shown with a very boldly patterned herring-bone tweed in brown and oatmeal. This suit had a very clever skirt with inlets of the material on the cross. It kept the slim red-like silhouette which was shown throughout the Molyneux collection. The use of jersey for afternoon is significant. The blouse was very definitely a blouse and not a shirt. It was cut like the top of a rather sophisticated afternoon frock.

The suit was plain and intended to be worn also with woollen sweaters and plain shirts. With the grey-blue top it was smart enough for dining out in any restaurant. At the same time, as the blouse was wool, it was warm enough for chilly country houses in a winter when we shall be duty bound to economise as much as ever in our heating arrangements.

P. JOYCE REYNOLDS.

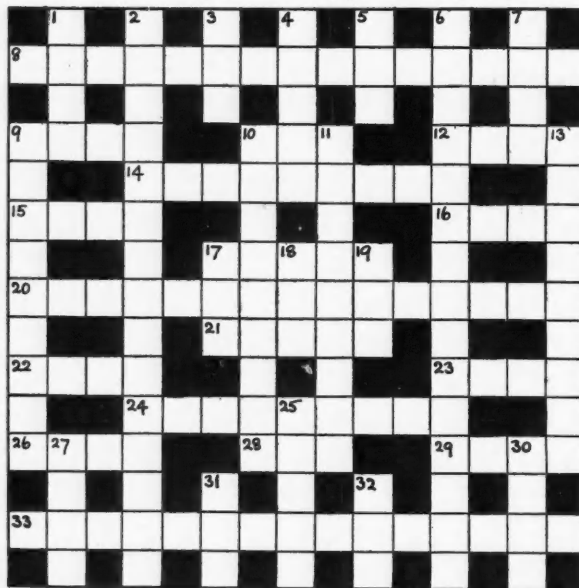
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CROSSWORD No. 767

Two guineas will be awarded for the first correct solution opened. Solutions (in a closed envelope) must reach "Crossword No. 767, COUNTRY LIFE, 2-10, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2," not later than the first post on Thursday, October 12, 1944.

NOTE.—This competition does not apply to the United States.



Name.....
(Mr., Mrs., etc.)

Address.....

SOLUTION TO No. 766. The winner of this Crossword, the clues of which appeared in the issue of September 29, will be announced next week.

ACROSS.—1, Three blind mice; 8, Hammer; 9, Trumper; 12, Este; 13, Third fairy; 15, Try to; 16, Nineteen; 17, Bit; 18, Eventual; 20, Expel; 23, Fratricide; 24, Moss; 26, Insight; 27, Antrim; 28, Hero to his valet. DOWN.—2, Healthy; 3, Emma; 4, Berths; 5, Intermitt; 6, Dead foemen; 7, Early English; 10, Price; 11, Kettle of fish; 14, Forthright; 16, Nil; 17, Bad catch; 19, Exams; 21, Provide; 22, Ideals; 25, Stoa.

ACROSS.

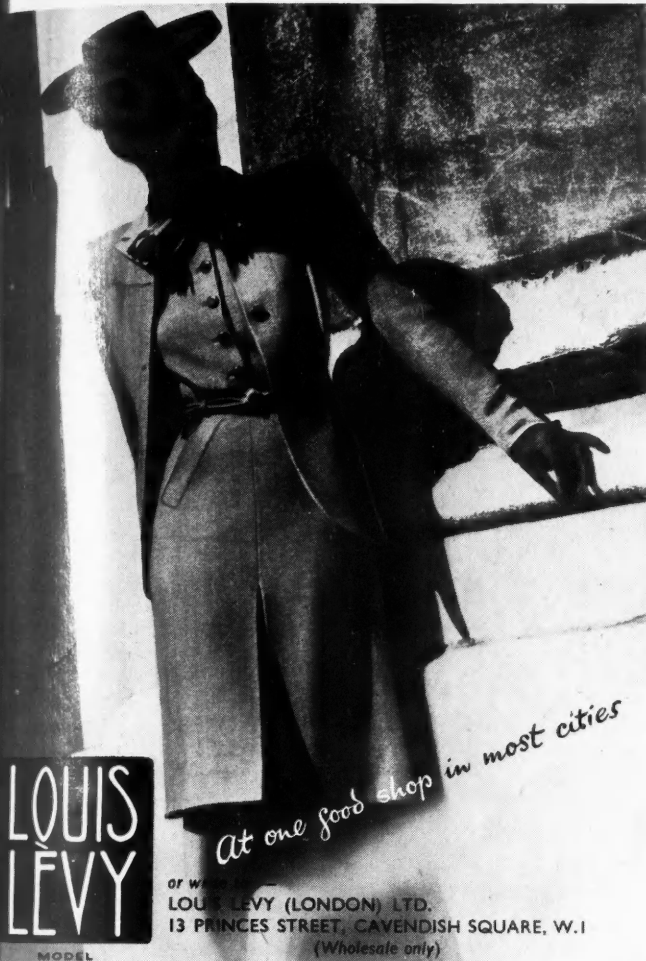
8. Desirer and desired, but how sour the latter! (3, 3, 3, 6)
9. Magic, perhaps, but on the whole how sickly (4)
10. The Navy is sometimes at it but not all at it (3)
12. Meg's jewels (4)
14. Meet a lamb (anagr.) (9)
15. Rather airy home of 9 down (4)
16. Town in Buckinghamshire (4)
17. Abounding in turf for fuel (5)
20. In the way it should go, and it will become an oak tree! (5, 2, 3, 5)
21. Weavers' reeds sound like "kills" (5)
22. On the wane yet again? (4)
23. I'm ending a Chaldean city! (4)
24. Killkenny, for example (5, 4)
26. "And cried, a —! a —!" —Coleridge (4)
28. Little sister's only half there (3)
29. Small mountain lake (4)
33. Spent on December 25 by those serving overseas (9, 6)

DOWN.

1. Do as this alkali suggests (4)
2. Scott's blind fiddler (9, 6)
3. Unusual (3)
4. One less than its number indicates (5)
5. Not all the rage yet! (3)
6. Pre-war magnets for buyers? (7, 8)
7. The man at it will steer us through (4)
9. They are much sought by pig-stickers! (4, 5)
10. The sleeper never is (9)
11. Variety of 12 (9)
13. A friend of Hiawatha (9)
17. What's the matter? Is it a Manx cat? (3)
18. She ranged at Caesar's side (3)
19. No? No (3)
25. One way to address a sheep (5)
27. Each has a pain (4)
30. Rode all the way? One may equally well walk it (4)
31. It's bad form to sit thus! (3)
32. Carroll said you never have it to-day (3)

The winner of Crossword No. 765 is

Miss A. S. Macintyre,
Mitre Cottage, Dinton
Salisbury.



LOUIS LEVY

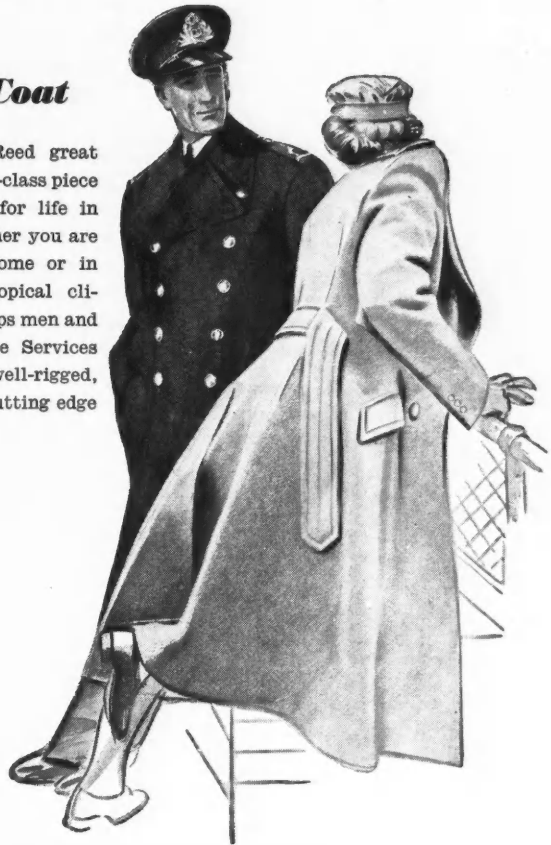
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